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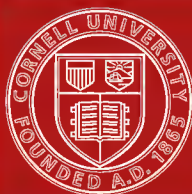
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Ever Yours,  
C. J. Heverly.



HISTORY  
OF THE  
TOWANDAS.

. 1770---1886.

---

INCLUDING

The Aborigines, Pennamites and Yankees,

TOGETHER WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

AND

MATTERS OF GENERAL IMPORTANCE CONNECT-  
ED WITH THE COUNTY SEAT,

BY

*C. F. HEVERLY.*

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TOWANDA, PA.:  
REPORTER-JOURNAL PRINTING COMPANY.  
1886.

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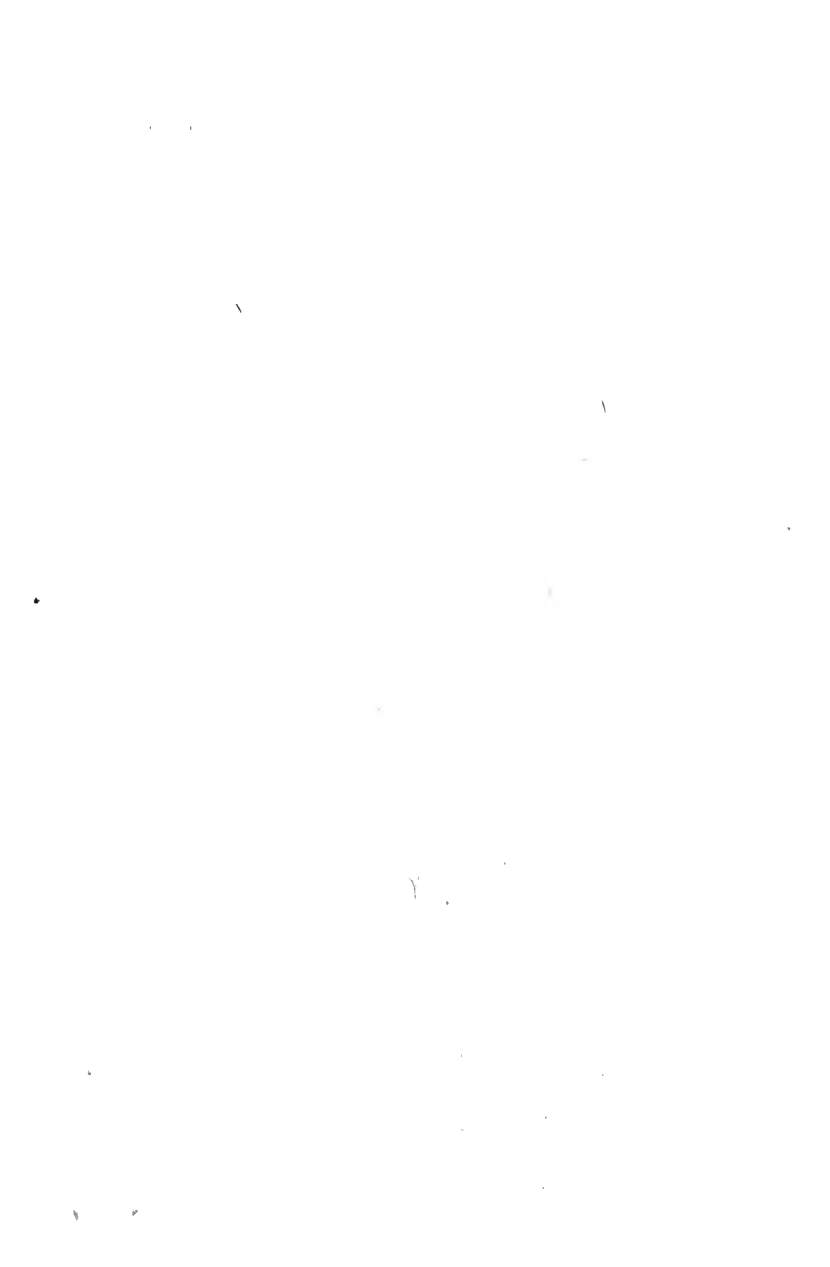
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## PREFACE.

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With Towanda begins the remotest history of the county, and as a souvenir to posterity this volume has been carefully written—that the deeds and virtues of the heroic pioneers may ever be kept bright ; and that we may reverence the memory of “ the Fathers and Mothers ” for the valuable lessons their lives have taught us, and for the hardships and privations they so nobly bore, that we might enjoy the fruits and blessings of their labors. Accordingly this volume is most affectionately dedicated to the pioneers, our benefactors, the men and women who founded the settlements, made the county what it is, and the men and boys who offered their lives to save our country from disunion. The preparation of this volume has cost months of hard labor—though a work of love—and has been verified as far as possible from official records. However, none are infallible, and from the great multitude of facts here contained, it will not be surprising if errors are disclosed.

In conclusion, the author tenders his greatest obligations to the following, who have most generously assisted and aided in furnishing data :

Mrs. Olive Elliott, Mrs. Nathaniel N. Betts, Mrs. Cornelius Coolbaugh, Mrs. Burton Kingsbury, Mrs. John Cranmer, Mrs. Thomas Hawkins, M. C. Mercur, Col. J. F. Means,

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C. F. HEVERLY.

*Towanda, Pa., April 26, 1886.*

# TOWANDA.

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## ORIGIN OF NAME.

*Towanda* is clearly an Indian term. *Awandæ* in the *Nanticoke* tongue signifies "a burial place"; and *Towandæmunk*, in the *Delaware* dialect, "where there is a burying," or "where we bury the dead."

In a very pretty tradition found among the venerable Burr Ridgway's papers, *Towanda* takes its name from the *Towanda Creek*, which was so called after the "young chief, *Towanda*," son of "Strong Eagle," who was living on "Beaver Creek," when the first white people came to the township. "The pale faces having, always, received the most honorable treatment from '*Towanda*,' when he left for the land whither his father had gone, to perpetuate his name changed 'Beaver Creek' to 'Towanda Creek,' and called the lands 'Towanda lands.' "

*Towanda* is also said to be derived from *Gowanda*, which in the Indian tongue means *a town among the hills by the waterside*, and again from *Dawantaa*, an Iroquois word signifying *the fretful or tedious*. On various records and maps, dated a century ago and subsequently, we find the word spelled *Towandec*, corresponding to the Indian term of *Awandac*.

Many have a vague tradition, that during the wars of the

Indians among themselves, they had two combats in a single day, near Towanda, the result and place of which were referred to by the victorious side as *two-won-in-a-day*, corrupted into *To-wan-daugh*, and finally *Towanda*.

The foregoing are the more probable derivations, but as the meaning of Indian terms is more or less suppositional, we leave the reader to make his own deduction.

#### POSITION AND EXTENT.

The Towandas are situated near the central part of the county, the township of Ulster and the Susquehanna forming their boundary on the north, the Susquehanna and Asylum on the east, Monroe on the south, and Burlington on the west. The general shape of the territory embraced in the two townships is rectangular, being modified by a triangular corner in the north, and the "cut-off" in the northeast and east, by the Susquehanna, which makes two graceful curves here, forming the eastern and northeastern boundaries. The Towandas, including the borough, comprise an area\* of almost twenty-five square miles.

#### SURFACE AND DRAINAGE.

The surface is hilly and somewhat broken along the Sugar Creek, which courses through the township of North Towanda, from west to east.

Between the Towanda and Sugar Creek is a plateau or water-shed, extending westward to the Armenia Mountains. "The Highlands" is the local name given to this plateau in

---

\*The area of Towanda township is 15.14 square miles, and of North Towanda 9.63 square miles.



Burlington and the western part of Towanda, where the land reaches an elevation of 1,400 feet. The lowest point in the territory herein described is at the mouth of the Towanda Creek, the flats there being only 700 feet above tide.

The Towandas are well watered by the Towanda and Sugar Creek and numerous smaller streams.

The drainage consists of three slopes. 1. The eastern slope, or slope of the Susquehanna. 2. The southeastern, or Towanda Creek slope. 3. The northern, or Sugar Creek slope.

The Towanda Creek enters Towanda township five-eighths of a mile east of the center of its southern bound, then takes a northeasterly course through the township, and mingles its waters with those of the gentle-flowing Susquehanna a mile below the village of Towanda. Sugar Creek enters North Towanda near the northwest corner of that township, flows due east a mile and a half, then bends southeasterly to within a quarter of a mile of the boundary between the two Towandas, when it again turns northeasterly and falls into the Susquehanna one and three-fourths miles southeast of the Ulster line.

#### SOIL AND PRODUCTS.

The soil is highly productive, even to the summits of the hills, and is well adapted for growing the cereals. Along the river and in the valleys of the Towanda and Sugar creeks are rich alluvial flats, especially suited for growing wheat, corn and tobacco. Excellent crops of wheat and corn are also grown on the highlands. There is but little waste land in these townships, and fully three-fourths of all is under a

good state of cultivation. As yet no mineral deposits of worth have been discovered.

*Agriculture* is the principal business of the people. Tobacco-growing has been introduced within a few years, and is now an important product. Dairying and stock-raising are carried on successfully but not extensively. The farms, especially of North Towanda, are small, but generally well conducted.

#### THE PEOPLE

Are an industrious, honorable class of citizens, and are engaged in farming.

The inhabitants of Towanda township are largely scions of the hardy pioneers who settled the valley of the Towanda Creek a century ago. In North Towanda are also many descendants of the pioneer settlers, but during the past forty years a large number of thrifty Irish families have settled in the township, and are to-day among her most enterprising and money-making citizens.

By the census of 1880 the population of Towanda township was 1,144; in 1870, 916; in 1860, about 585 (117 voters); in 1850 (including what is now North Towanda), about 645 (129 voters); in 1840 (including North Towanda), about 715 (143 voters); in 1830 (including Towanda borough and North Towanda), 978; in 1820 (including Towanda borough, North Towanda and Monroe), 1,024—the same territory now having a population of 8,000.

North Towanda had 582 inhabitants in 1860, 593 in 1870 and 745 in 1880.

CLAVERACK,\* THE SUSQUEHANNA COMPANY AND THE PENNSYLVANIA CLAIMANTS.

The following in relation to Claverack is recorded : " On the 20th of June, 1774, the Committee of the Susquehanna Company, for laying out townships, officially permit Jeremiah Hogaboom and Solomon Strong to locate and survey a township, five miles square, in the Susquehanna purchase."

Hogaboom makes the annexed report which was accepted June 4th, 1778. " Pursuant to the votes of the Susquehanna Company of proprietors to locate and lay out townships to a number of proprietors, applying to take up a township, as will appear by said vote, I have by the approbation of the Committee appointed to direct the laying out of townships, surveyed and layed out a township on the East Branch of the Susquehanna river in said purchase, beginning at a place called and known by the name of Wysocks Creek, about five hundred yards below where said creek flows into the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, at a white oak tree ; thence south  $59^{\circ}$  west five miles and sixty rods ; thence north  $31^{\circ}$  west five miles ; thence north  $59^{\circ}$  east five miles ; thence south  $30^{\circ}$  east five miles to the first mentioned bound,—containing twenty-five square miles, exclusive of the river, which I have surveyed at the request of Col. John H. Lydius, Capt. Abraham Lansing, Baltiaser Lydius, Peter Hogaboom, and others, their associates, proprietors in said purchase, a list of whom is herewith delivered to the Committee aforesaid."

JEREMIAH HOGABOOM,

Agent for said Proprietors.

---

\* *Claverack* is so-called from Claverack on the Hudson river, the home of the grantees of this township.

" The above survey is approved, as witness our hands and seals.

" ZEBULON BUTLER,

" OBADIAH GORE,

" Committee of the Susquehanna Co."

The following will be seen to define the rights of Hogaboom and Strong :

" This is to certify that Col. Jeremiah Hogaboom and Capt. Solomon Strong laid out and located a township on the Susquehanna river, in the Susquehanna purchase, agreeably to the rules and orders of the Susquehanna Company, and was granted to them by the committee appointed for that purpose and are still entitled to it, provided they proceed to settle it by the first of May next.

" ZEBULON BUTLER,

" OBADIAH GORE,

" Committee for Laying Out Townships.

" Wyoming, Conn., Dec. 18, 1785."

According to the rules of the Susquehanna Company Claverack was divided into fifty-three equal shares, or lots. It was called *Strong and Hogaboom's town*, they owning one-third of the whole number of rights in it. These two gentlemen were extensive land speculators, and wishing to hold their claims in Claverack, as will be seen, were active in securing settlers.

Claverack embraced half of the Towandas, a third of Wysox and the lower Sheshequin flats. That half of Claverack lying on the west side of the Susquehanna covered more than half of what is now Tpwanda and North To-

wanda, the balance of these townships being included in the Susquehanna Company's towns of "Bachelor's Adventure," "Blooming Dale," "Ensurance" and "Bortle's Pitch."

In the autumn of 1800 Col. Benjamin Dorrance, of Kingston, Pa., and John Franklin, of Athens by the conveyance of former claimants, became the joint owners in Claverack of over twelve thousand acres of land, which they subsequently leased and sold to the settlers.

It required several years, however, before they had disposed of their "mammoth farm" and made final settlements.

Claverack was one of the "original seventeen townships" of the Susquehanna Company, which came into existence as follows: "Rumors of the wondrous beauty and fertility of the Susquehanna valley were in circulation. A few prominent men of Connecticut, wishing to know more of the country, sent a party to explore this region. They were charmed with Wyoming. Its broad plains, its rich soil and beautiful situation made it a paradise beside the sterile, rock-bound New England, and so favorable a report did they make that an association, styled the,

#### SUSQUEHANNA COMPANY,

was formed July 8, 1753, for the purpose of securing the purchase and effecting a settlement of the Susquehanna lands with the ultimate design of being erected into a separate colony by a royal charter."

At a meeting of the company at Albany on the 9th of January, 1754, Deacon Timothy Woodbridge was appointed

to negotiate with the Six Nations for the purchase of the Susquehanna land. By the aid of Colonel John H. Lydius, of Albany, a deed was obtained from the Indians, for the company, of a large tract of land beginning ten miles east of the East Branch of the Susquehanna river, on the one and fortieth degree of north latitude, thence with a northward line ten miles distant from the said river to the end of the forty-second degree, and to extend westward throughout the whole breadth thereof, through two degrees of longitude, one hundred and twenty miles. This deed, which covered all of Bradford county except the northeastern corner, was properly executed and signed by seventeen sachems of the Six Nations, and bears date July 11, 1754.

The company at once began to take measures for occupying their lands, and in the fall of 1754 a considerable number came in for the purpose of selecting a favorable location for a settlement, but on account of the disturbed condition of affairs, growing out of the French war, the matter was held in abeyance for eight years. After peace had been declared, the company at once renewed its efforts to take possession of its domain. Preliminary arrangements having been made, in the month of May, 1763, about one hundred and fifty settlers came on, some of them bringing their families with them, and occupied and improved lands in Wilkes-Barre, Kingston, Plymouth and Hanover. This year "Pontiac's War" broke out, and bands of hostile Indians began to hover over the frontier settlements in Pennsylvania, watching for a favorable opportunity to avenge the wrongs inflicted upon them by the whites. About midday, October 15th,

just as the "Connecticut pioneers" were returning from their fields, they were suddenly attacked by a band of hostile Indians, twenty of their number were killed, a few taken prisoners, and the remainder fled, leaving everything behind them.

By order of the Crown all further attempts at making a settlement on the Susquehanna were suspended until the establishment of peace. This was finally secured at the treaty of Fort Stanwix, November 5th, 1768, at which time the

#### PROPRIETARIES OF PENNSYLVANIA

effected a purchase of a tract of land "beginning on the east side of the East Branch of the river Susquehanna at a place called *Owegy* (Owego), thence down the said branch on the east side, to the mouth of a creek called by the Indians *Awandac* (Towandee), and across the river and up the said creek on the south side, and along the north side of a range of hills, called "Burnett's Hills," to the head of Pine Creek, thence down that stream to the West Branch and across to the Ohio. This tract included a large part of Bradford county. The remaining part of the territory was not purchased until after the close of the Revolutionary war. The Pennsylvania government now holding a title for the coveted Wyoming, at once adopted rigorous measures to effect a settlement under the patronage of the proprietaries, for whom two large manors were surveyed, and lots of one hundred acres each, were leased to Charles Stewart and Amos Ogden, and others, friends to the proprietaries, at a nominal rental, on condition that they hold

possession of the country. Within a short time warrants were issued and surveys were made of the most valuable lands in the purchase, which were assigned to the friends of the government, to be held by themselves or leased to their faithful allies.

The Indians having become reconciled once more, the Connecticut people began to prepare for a second expedition to the Susquehanna country. Upon returning to their possessions in 1768-9 they found them in the occupation of Stewart, Ogden, Jennings and others, who had reached the valley a few days in advance of them and had raised the flag of the Proprietary Government. Here was a dilemma. What was to be done? There was but one alternative; either to retrace their steps to Connecticut, or stand their ground. They chose the latter.

And here began that long and bitter conflict between the Connecticut and Pennsylvania men, known as the

#### "YANKEE AND PENNAMITE WAR,"

which never became finally settled till the passage of the compromise law of 1799, by the Legislature of Pennsylvania. Sometimes attended by bloodshed, sometimes reprisals only, but always a bitter and vindictive feud. The jails of the adjoining counties of Northampton and Northumberland were often filled with Wyoming prisoners, sent there by the authorities of Pennsylvania for trespassing on the disputed lands. And thus a series of murders, arsons, battles, sieges, arrests and angry personal disputes continued for more than a fourth of a century. These controversies related to two distinct questions,—the right of *jurisdiction*



and the right of *soil*. Both the charters of Pennsylvania and Connecticut, which were derived from the Crown of England, covered the territory in dispute, hence the result is obvious.

During all the troubles incident to the "Yankee and Pennamite War," the Connecticut people were not daunted. The Susquehanna Company continuing to grant new townships and settle them, occupying in all seventeen prior to 1782. Of these four were in Bradford county, viz:—"Springfield," "Standing Stone," "Claverack," and "Ulster." After fourteen years of bitter strife, Congress finally, at the instance of the State of Pennsylvania, with the concurrence of the State of Connecticut, intervened the federal authority to adjust the Susquehanna troubles. This body adopted a resolution, naming Commissioners, who met at Trenton, N. J., in November, 1782. The Commissioners, after a protracted session of forty-one days, during which the agents and attorneys on both sides discussed at length the subject of the troubles, decided, on the 30th of December, that the *State of Connecticut* had no right to the land in controversy, and that the jurisdiction and pre-emption of all lands of right belonged to Pennsylvania.

To this *decree*, as it has always been called, the two contending States, as well as the settlers, assented. It was now supposed upon all sides that the troubles had found a peaceful as well as final end. Unfortunately such was not the case, and the confusion and strife became more bitter and disastrous than before.

Finally, in 1799, the whole question was arranged in the

passage by the Legislature, of the "Compromise Law." Under the terms of this enactment, Commissioners were appointed to cause a survey to be made of all lands claimed by the Connecticut settlers within the "Seventeen Townships," previous to the decree of Trenton, in which titles had been granted to them, according to the rules and regulations among them.

They were to classify and value these lands, and give certificates to the owners, upon the presentation of which, to the Secretary of the Land Office, on the payment of a small sum as purchase money, a patent was granted by the State. The purchase money to be paid was, for the first-class, two dollars an acre ; for the second, one dollar and twenty cents ; for the third, fifty cents ; and eight and one-fourth cents for the fourth class.

The lands of the Pennsylvania claimants were also to be ascertained and valued, and when they came in conflict with the claims of the Connecticut man, they were required to relinquish their title to the State and receive from the treasury, in full compensation for land of the first-class, five dollars an acre ; three dollars for the second ; one dollar and fifty cents for the third, and twenty-five cents for the fourth. As soon as forty thousand acres should thus be released to the State by the Pennsylvania claimants,—and the Connecticut claimants, who owned an equal quantity, should bind themselves to submit to the law, to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, then the Act was to take effect. This then provided for the settlers within the "Seventeen Townships."

But there was another class\* to whom no compromise was offered: these were the "Half Share men," or as they were sometimes called, the "Wild Yankees," who were induced to come upon the purchase in full faith in the validity of the Susquehanna Company's title, and for the purpose of defending it from encroachment by the Pennsylvania landholders. For these, though they were for the most part industrious and honest men, and would have made good citizens, the Commonwealth had a policy, not of conciliation, but of extirpation, or in the language of one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, "to cut them up by the roots." Toward these juries were allowed no discretion, and for them courts could show no mercy.

To this policy, as may be supposed, these settlers did not readily accede, although many of the old settlers endeavored to persuade them to submit to the oppressive laws which were attempted to be enforced against them, and trust to the generosity of the State to afford them relief. On the other hand, they were urged to maintain their claim at all hazards, by such men as Colonel John Franklin, the Saterlees, the Kingsburys, and Spauldings of this county. In order more successfully to maintain their claim, they banded together under a league, each pledging to defend the other with money or force. As might be expected, acts of violence were committed and many things were done, which, in less exciting times, would have been considered, even by the proprietors, as atrocious. Settlers under

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\*Before the close of the 18th century, the Susquehanna Company had surveyed the whole of Bradford county into townships, and assigned every acre of land to those claiming rights under it.

Pennsylvania title were driven off their lands, and surveyors who came to locate warrants were compelled to desist.

Col. Arthur Erwin, of Easton, an extensive owner of lands, in the northern part of the county, was shot dead while sitting in the door of the house of Mr. McDuffie of Athens; the Rev. Thomas Smiley, at that time living eight or ten miles up the Towanda Creek, while acting as an assistant agent under the "Intrusion Law" was tarred and feathered. This ignominious affair, having transpired within the limits of Towanda township deserves a more detailed notice here. Colonel Abraham Horn had been appointed by the Pennsylvania landholders to put the "Intrusion Law" in force, and at once entered upon his duties. In June, 1801, he came into Bradford county, but apprehending danger from the violent oppression of the people, he stopped at Asylum. Rev. Thomas Smiley had written to the agent that nearly all the forty settlers on Towanda Creek would renounce their Connecticut titles and purchase of the Pennsylvania claimants. A conference was held at Asylum. Mr. Smiley was commissioned a deputy agent, and furnished with the necessary papers. July 7th, he obtained the signatures of nearly forty to their relinquishments and submissions, and started for Asylum. A meeting was held and the "Wild Yankees" determined that the business must be stopped. About twenty men from Sugar Creek, Ulster and Sheshequin, armed and disguised, started in pursuit. Mr. Smiley, hearing the arrangements of the conspirators, went down to Joshua Wythe's near Monroeton, where he remained until dark, and then stopped for the night at Jacob Granteer's,

then living on the Towanda Creek above Mr. Hale's. The party, learning of his lodging-place, followed him, broke into his room, compelled him to burn his papers, took him near the creek, poured a bottle of tar over his head and beard, then adding feathers, the leader after giving him a kick told him he might go, but must leave the country. John Murphy, David Campbell, Jacob Irvine, Ebenezer Shaw, Stephen Ballard and Benjamin Griffin were arrested for the assault, but the proof being insufficient the grand jury returned the bill *ignoramus*. It has been said that the man who carried the bottle of tar was on the grand jury, but as in this capacity he was supposed to take cognizance only of the facts proven, he was not expected to decide from his own personal knowledge, and therefore voted with the majority. Mr. Smiley removed to Lycoming county, where for twenty-five years he was pastor of the Baptist church in White Deer Valley. For a further history of the "land troubles" as connected with this county, see Craft's General History of Bradford County. We have given all bearing on this locality, and enough of the history in outline to get a definite idea of the topics mentioned in the caption.

#### TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION.

Bradford county was formed from parts of Lycoming and Luzerne in 1812. The western third of that territory, now embraced in the Towandas, was in Lycoming county, and the balance in Luzerne. At the court held at Wilkes-Barre, in March, 1790, "it is ordered by the justices of this court that the county of Luzerne be divided into *eleven* townships, by the following names and descriptions, to wit :

" 1. *Tioga*, bounded north by the north line of the State ; on the east by the east line of the county ; on the south by an east and west line, which shall strike the *Standing Stone*, in the west line of the county." The " 2nd " township was *Wyalusing*, which bounded *Tioga* on the north. "*Tioga* " as thus described, was sixty-seven miles in length from east to west, and a trifle more than eighteen miles in width from north to south.

At the April sessions, 1795, a petition was presented to the court asking for a division of *Tioga* township by an east and west line passing through a small stream on the east side of the *Susquehanna*, southwesterly of "Break-neck," the north part to be called *Tioga*, and the south part "*Wisocks*." The prayer of the petitioners was granted.

Again in 1807, at the April sessions of the *Luzerne* County Court, upon the petition of Job Irish and other citizens of *Wysocks*, setting forth that owing to the inconvenience and at times the impossibility of crossing the river, and praying for a new township to be set off on the west side of the river,—Jonathan Stevens, M. Minor York and John Taylor were appointed viewers to examine and report in relation to the same. At the November Court (1807) they report in favor of a new township to be called *Towanda*, with the following boundaries : Beginning at the mouth of *Durell Creek*, thence south 45 degrees west to the county line, (rather what now is,) thence on said line west to the corner of *Canton*, thence north on the east line of *Canton* to the county line (between *Lycoming* and *Luzerne*), thence as said line runs to the *Susquehanna* river. The report was

confirmed finally in January, 1808. The territory embraced within the foregoing boundaries included parts of Asylum, Monroe, Overton, Barclay, the Burlingtons, the Towandas and all of Franklin. Towanda was one of "the original ten townships," or one of the *ten* already formed within the limits of the county prior to its organization.

After the incorporation of the borough of Towanda, the northern and southern parts of the township were so completely separated that it made a division practically necessary for the convenience of the inhabitants residing in the two portions of it.

Accordingly H. L. Scott and other citizens of the township, upon petition at the December term of Court, 1850, 'represent that great inconvenience results to the citizens of the township from its present shape, and pray that Commissioners be appointed to view and inquire into the propriety of dividing the same.' Whereupon the Court appoint Geo. H. Bull, E. C. Kellogg and Earl Nichols, who report in favor of dividing the township at the February session, 1851, "by a line commencing on the west line of the borough of Towanda, at a point near the northwest corner of lands of Henry S. Mercur, thence in a straight line west to the Burlington line, intersecting it immediately north of the Overshot mill."

The Commissioners report having been made, the citizens in a second petition, "pray the Court to confirm it and further respectfully ask that the new township lying south of said line be named *Towanda township*, and the one north of it *Sugar Creek*."

The report was confirmed finally December 15, 1851, "the townships to be called *North Towanda* and *South Towanda*." Subsequently the citizens petitioned the Court to have the word "South" dropped, and "South Towanda" was accordingly changed to Towanda township.

#### ABORIGINES.

The early history of the aboriginal tribes inhabiting this continent when first discovered by Europeans is lost in obscurity. A few vague and fanciful traditions, rites and ceremonies of uncertain origin and meaning, intimations derived from the philology of unwritten and imperfectly understood languages, some of which have ceased to exist, afford all the information we have of this interesting people in the remote ages.

Europeans found the country west of the Mississippi occupied by two great families of nations, known respectively as *Huron-Iroquois*, from the two leading nations, and *Algonquins*. Of the latter were the *Delawares*, *Leni-Lenapi* and New England tribes; of the former the Five Nations of Central New York, the *Iroquois* proper, the *Andastes* or *Susquehanna* tribes, *Hurons*, *Eries*, *Tuscaroras*, and other nations.

At the beginning of the seventeenth century the *Andastes* were the most powerful of these nations. They comprised ten confederated tribes and forty villages fortified with palisades extending along the valley of the *Susquehanna* from Southern New York to the Chesapeake Bay, and could muster several thousand armed warriors. About the year 1600 the French Jesuit Missionaries among the *Mohawks* came in contact with them through a war between them and the



*Iroquois*, which continued ten years, and called them *Andastoguis*. In 1608 Captain John Smith met them on the Chesapeake and speaks of them as *Sasquesahanocks*. Three of their palisade villages were within the limits of Bradford county—the *Carantonans* at Spanish Hill, with whom Stephen Brule, connected with one of Champlain's expeditions, spent a winter; *Oscolui*, on the north bank of Sugar Creek, on the point of the hill bounded by the creek and the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad, and which received local importance from the fact that it was near the junction of the great trail leading from the West to the East Branch of the Susquehanna, with the great warrior path leading down the latter and *Gohontoto* on the bluff, on the north bank of the Wyalusing creek, where it flows into the Susquehanna. The North Branch Canal, and later the Railroad, cut through this hill, and more recently the greater part of it has been removed by the Company for the uses of their road.

Long and bloody wars were carried on between the *Andastes* and the *Iroquois*, though with varying success and defeat to each, yet the latter were being gradually weakened by the repeated blows of their more powerful neighbors. Fortuitous circumstances, however, at length favored the valiant *Iroquois*. A pestilence broke out among the *Andastes* which decimated their villages. Soon after the small pox, the red man's plague, reduced their armies and very greatly impaired their strength. About the same time the *Mohawks* obtained firearms from the Dutch, who were settling along the Hudson. From these various causes the powerful *Andastes* were compelled to succumb to their pow-

erful neighbors, by whom their nationality was entirely obliterated, and such of them as were not slain, were carried captive by their victors and incorporated with their families to make up the losses suffered in battle. This made the *Iroquois* masters of the entire northwestern territory of the United States, they having subdued the *Algonquins* before, assumed the government of their subjugated tribes, and the disposal of their domain. As the European colonists desired more lands upon which to extend their settlements, the *Iroquois*, who negotiated the sales, transferred the *Algonquins* to the unoccupied territory farther west. In pursuance of this policy, the valley of the Susquehanna, after the destruction of the *Andastes* was given to the *Delawares*, and *Teedyuscung*, their King was ordered to remove his people thither. The Susquehanna country, above Wyoming, was occupied by the *Minsis*, the northernmost tribe of the *Delawares*, of whom *Popunhawk*, who built at Wyalusing, was the principal man. A *Cayuga* chieftan stationed at *Diahoga*, at the confluence of the Tioga (Chemung) and Susquehanna river, was the viceroy of the *Iroquois*, and had the general control and oversight of the dependencies down the Susquehanna valley. In 1748, the *Nanticokes*, (Tidewater people,) abandoned their ancient seats on the eastern shore of Maryland, and emigrated northward. They had the repulsive custom during their burial feasts, which occurred at stated intervals, of exhuming the remains of their relatives which had been buried at convenient places, removing the flesh from their bones and depositing them in a public cemetery. One of these cemeteries was on the flats below the

Barclay Railroad station at Towanda. River freshets have laid bare many of these Indians remains, together with the various trinkets they were accustomed to deposit with their dead. The late C L. Ward made a considerable collection of these relics, which were transferred to the *Bradford County Historical Society*. It is quite probable that for a time some of them planted on the Towanda flats, where the deep alluvial soil affords such favorable places for corn patches and easy cultivation with the rude implements they had in use.

While there can be scarcely a reasonable doubt but that the *Oscaluis* in times of peace left their fortified villages and built their huts at Towanda, Wysox, and Sheshequin, yet the first certain knowledge we have of a settlement on the Towanda flats is in 1763, when about a dozen families, a circle of relatives, connections of two Moravian Christian Indians living near Tunkhannock, by the names of Nathaniel and Anthony, were settled here. David Zeisberger, the intrepid missionary of the Moravian church among the red men, while at Wyalusing in May of that year, paid them a visit, and preached the gospel to them, to which they eagerly listened, and there seemed to be good promise of the conversion of the entire village, but the Pontiac war broke out at this time, and the missionary was directed to return to Bethlehem, not, however, until the emissaries of Pontiac had already visited the Susquehanna towns and enlisted the most of them for the war. In a short time every village above Shamokin (Sunbury) was abandoned, some of the inhabi-

tants who were opposed to the war seeking refuge among their friends, the others joining the enemy.

From this time onward no important village of the Indians was located on the Towanda and vicinity. Rudolph Fox found a few families near the mouth of the creek, who claimed to own all the land as far as Monroeton or Greenwood, and whose claim he purchased. Afterward straggling parties may have encamped here for a short time, but nothing like permanent occupation was attempted.

The men connected with the Sullivan expedition in 1779 found between the mouth of Sugar Creek and the present Borough of Towanda a town called *Newtychauning*, consisting of a number of unfinished log houses. These were destroyed, and with their destruction perished the last attempt at Indian occupation along the Susquehanna within the limits of Bradford county.

#### EARLY HISTORY.

When Towanda was first visited by white man can never be ascertained. Whether he was some daring explorer, or zealous missionary will be unknown forever. But be that as it may, it will be remembered that Towanda is the oldest settled part of Bradford county, and has a history none the less interesting.

"About the year 1710, a large number of Palatines, people of one of the German states, were induced to emigrate into the province of New York, where many of them were placed to the westward of the British settlements, which they were intended to shield from the incursions of

the warlike *Mohawks*. Many of these emigrants becoming dissatisfied with their location and with the treatment which they had received from the New York authorities, removed to Pennsylvania, in which large numbers of Palatines had begun to settle as early as 1727.

At first their route was down the Delaware; but the short and easy portage from the Mohawk, where their principal settlements were established, to the head of the Susquehanna, soon made this to be preferred to the former route. It is probable these hardy Germans were the first white people to navigate our river, for as early as 1737 Conrad Weiser found some of them at Wyoming trying to buy land of the Indians. Of these emigrants, Rudolph Fox with his family stopped at Towanda, and Peter Shoe-felt at Frenchtown, and were the first white people who undertook to make a permanent home in the county, having settled here in the month of May, 1770.

#### THE PIONEERS.

“ God rest them ! in their last low homes,  
With all their brave compeers,  
Who fought and bled, or toiled and strove,  
Through weary, lingering years ;  
That thus their sons in prosp’rous peace  
Could pleasantly review  
The many changes time has wrought,  
Since this, our land was bought.

#### EARLY SETTLERS OF TOWANDA CREEK.

*The Fox Family.*—As already stated *Rudolph Fox* came to this county in 1770, and settled on the west side of the Towanda Creek, about a half mile above its mouth, being

the first permanent white settler in Bradford county. When Mr. Fox came to Towanda, a few families of Indians were living on the stream near Major Hale's and claimed all the lands in the country. Of these Mr. Fox purchased the land\* lying on Towanda Creek, extending from the river to the forks at Monroeton. Subsequently his purchase of the Indians was patented to himself and others, he receiving but four hundred acres, the same being patented to him as the "Fox Chase." Having selected a site near the creek, Mr. Fox erected his cabin, and prepared for life in earnest in the wilderness, surrounded by Red men and the savage creatures of the forest. Excepting the Christian Indian towns at Wyalusing and Sheshequin, the nearest white settlements were at Wyoming. So far removed from all the appliances of civilized life, he must of necessity have supplied his wants in the rude manner of the pioneer. The sufferings of the family were many, but the heroic manner in which they were met furnishes abundant material for a most interesting romance. However, it is not our intent to write one, but to give merely the more thrilling incidents connected with this courageous family.

While Mr. Fox had purchased his land of the Indians for a satisfactory price, yet their presence was anything but pleasant. Soon after the breaking out of the Revolutionary War the friendly feelings of his tawny neighbors were observed to undergo a change, and they became more haughty and exacting. Living so remote from all other settlers, his

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\* "There seemed to be a very general opinion among the Germans of New York that in Pennsylvania the Indians were regarded as the lawful owners of the soil, and a purchase from them was sufficient to give good title."

cattle and horses had unrestricted range of the country, and sometimes wandered widely. In the month of March, 1777, while in search of his cattle, he was seized and taken a captive to Quebec, where he was kept for nine months, during all of which time his family were ignorant of his fate. At one time the Indians, who were frequent and troublesome visitors, informed Mrs. Fox "that her husband had been killed because he was not a good King's man." Mrs. Fox, half in fear, and wishing to read their faces replied, "that if he had not been a good King's man he ought to have been killed." The Indians looked at each other and laughed, which Mrs. Fox regarded as sufficient proof of the falsity of their statement, and thence thought her husband living. The family were obliged to secrete whatever the Indians might fancy in order to keep it from their depredations, especially provisions. So watchful were they for plunder that frequently the family were compelled to pass the whole day without food, and eat at night in the cellar. Finally they would demand Mrs. Fox to bring forth her eatables, and upon being refused, they would sharpen their knives in her presence, thinking that this would frighten her to a compliance. But she understood their game, and by being resolute, saved her meagre supply. Should they discover a hog or other beast, they would slaughter it, without consulting Mrs. Fox's interests in the least, but to tantalize her the more would offer her a piece of the flesh.

One day two Indians came to her cabin and bade her give them meal. Having but a mere pittance, and thinking that they could not have the heart to take that from a suffer-

ing family, offered it to them. But she had over-estimated their nobleness of heart. Taking it all—the last she had—they squeezed it into a very small package then pointed their fingers at her in fiendish derision, because she had not given them more.

Mrs. Fox was hopeful, and though her situation was a most perilous one, she determined to await the return of her husband. On a very cold night in December (19th) a call was heard from the other side of the river, which Mrs. Fox recognized as that of her husband, who had, at last, succeeded in making his escape. The Indians had stolen their canoe, and a raft could not be pushed across the river on account of the ice, so he was obliged to encamp in the pines which grew thickly on the Wysox plains, and spend the night within call of the family. It was a night of suffering for all. So intense was the cold that the river had frozen over during the night. In the morning he ventured across it, and reached his family in safety.

He was not molested again until the party which captured the Strobe family came along. On their way down they took Mr. Fox prisoner, lest he should give the alarm. He managed, however, to escape from them before reaching Tioga Point.

Danger from the Indians daily increased, and a friendly squaw had given them warning.

Gathering some of his horses and cattle, with the aid of an assistant\*, Mr. Fox undertook to take them by land;

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\*It is stated that Mr. Fox started alone with his stock, and procured the aid of a white man, whom he hired on the way. The assistant is said to have been killed by the Indians, while Mr. Fox escaped uninjured.



while the family, with such effects as could be conveniently loaded in a *bateau*, were sent down the river.

When in the vicinity of Dodge's island, Mr. Fox discovered a band of Indians crossing the hill in front of him. He motioned his family to come ashore, when he abandoned his stock, and got into the canoe with them. They secreted themselves behind the island until the hostile party had passed, when they again resumed their journey. It was about the time of the Wyoming battle, and the river was swarming with parties of hostile Indians. It seems almost miraculous that they could have escaped. At one time as they were passing along, they heard firing and cries on the shore. A band of Indians had surprised a party\* of whites. What added to their danger, the babe, Rudolph, commenced screaming. The mother tried to hush him, crammed leaves into his mouth, and still being unable to quiet him, thrice took him up to throw him overboard—a desperate, but apparently only means of escaping detection. But the mother's heart could not consent to the sacrifice. They succeeded in passing the Indians, and reached Sunbury in safety.

After the Wyoming battle Mr. Fox came up the river with Hartley's expedition to look after his interests. Upon the return of the detachment, he went back to his family. He remained at Sunbury† till the close of the war, when, in 1783, he moved his family to Wilkes-Barre, whence he and four of his children proceeded to their old home at Towanda.

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\*Others state this was at the time of the Wyoming battle, and as the family were passing they saw two men, who had been scalped, making their escape by taking to their heels in the direction of the river.

†Rev. Julius Foster states, "that Mr. Fox remained at Sunbury for a year or two," etc.

They came up in company with Jonathan Forsyth, who pushed on to Binghamton

Here they found the buildings and stacks of grain which they had left, in ashes. A bark-covered cabin was constructed, and other preparations made for the reception of the family. When ready to return for the remainder of the family it was proposed—

“ A son and a daughter to leave on the plain,  
 ‘Till he could go home and return again.  
 The son discontented refus’d here to stay—  
 ‘Go back,’ says Eliza, ‘but I shall obey;  
 I’d rather stay lonely, though woods are so wild,  
 Than hear you thus crying, undutiful child.’

“ She watch’d their departure till long out of sight,  
 And then to her cabin, to spend a long night.  
 Now think of Eliza, contemplate the scene—  
 Alone in the woods, at the age of thirteen.  
 The time for returning was four or five days;  
 ‘O! may I endure it,’ she fervently prays.  
 ‘And while thus so lonely I lie down to sleep,  
 My Heavenly Father, I pray my soul to keep!’

“ But when the days ended the time for return,  
 She watched for her father but watched still to mourn—  
 Five days all alone in this wilderness home,  
 ‘O, where is my father! O, why don’t he come?’  
 But doomed was Eliza to much longer stay,  
 Misfortune and sickness had caus’d a delay;  
 Twelve days now were added before his return,  
 And she in her cabin was still left to mourn.

“ Each night when the twilight was gone from the west,  
 And all that were peaceful to slumber and rest;  
 But wolves in great numbers were prowling around,

And made the woods echo with most dismal sound,  
 She kept the fire smother'd throughout the whole day,  
 As smoke might discover the place where she lay,  
 To the red men, the Indians, who strolled 'round the land,  
 And she made a prey to a merciless band."\*

"A more heroic undertaking could scarcely be proposed. A young girl, on the spot where their buildings had been burned, surrounded by savage beasts and liable to be disturbed by savage men, consents to be the sole occupant of the premises for ten† days, the time supposed to be necessary for the trip. But unexpected trials awaited her. The mother was found to be too ill to be removed, and a delay of more than a month was unavoidable. Provisions ran short with the little girl." \* \* "The Forsyths returned, and called to see her, and tried to persuade her to go back with them. This she stoutly refused to do, and they left her some food, while she awaited the coming of the family." The shrill scream of the panther and howls of the wolf at night, added horror to her dreary situation in the wilds. Both these savage beasts had been heard upon her bark-covered cabin, hoping to gain admission. One night as she was lying upon her bed of hemlock boughs asleep, a panther unceremoniously came in through her blanket-door, took the jerked venison from over her head and then left again without doing her any harm. The animal was detected by his tracks the next morning. When a short distance

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\*The above poem was written by Eliphalet Mason for Elizabeth Means, while she was yet living, and is no doubt accurate as to facts. It appeared in the *Bradford Reporter*, Sept. 26th, 1849.

†From Rev. J. Foster's obituary of Deacon John Fox, in which the facts do not fully corroborate those of Mr. Mason.

from her cabin one day, the sound of footsteps suddenly fell upon her ears. She was greatly alarmed at first, thinking that Indians were coming. Peeping out from behind a tree, she saw an enormous pack of wolves advancing, and, as she remarked, "her fears were gone." Picking up a pine knot, she struck it against a tree, making a sharp, ringing noise, which frightened the gray denizens quite as much as she had been, and they turned and ran off as fast as their legs would carry them. "She kept her post for about three weeks,\* when, after eating the last of her provisions, and seeing no prospect of relief, she set out to meet the family, or find a hut where she might procure some food. She had proceeded but a few miles, when, at Gordon's island, she discovered the boat with her family slowly ascending the river. The moment of deliverance from peril was not only a moment of pleasure, but of pleasantry. The father inquired 'Where are you going?' 'To Wilkes-Barre, to get something to eat,' replied the daughter. She was taken on board, and they reached home after an absence of five years."

From this time the family lived in comparative security and comfort. Sometimes, however, the crops failed. At one time they were several weeks without grain or garden vegetables. Like shepherds of old, they lived upon the milk and flesh of the flock. A boat-load of grain passed down the river in the meantime. Money was out of the question, and Mr. Fox offered to exchange a cow for a barrel of grain, but was refused. Wintergreen

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\*The time was exactly seventeen days.

berries were about the only fruit of the forest, and upon these and milk the family subsisted for four weeks.

When the rye was far enough advanced that it could be rubbed out of the head, they gathered of it, boiled and added it to milk, which made a dish, as the children afterwards expressed it of "the most delicious food they had ever tasted."

A root found in the low lands and known to the early settlers as "sweet cicely" furnished considerable nourishment, while the "island cherries" were a luxury

At this time the nearest milling point was Wilkes-Barre, and moreover, it required strong men to pole a boat up the river. Therefore Mr. Fox was required to resort to the Indian's or Yankee's invention in preparing his grain for food.

When Mr. Fox came to Towanda the flats were covered with thorn trees and other timbers, save an occasional opening, where the Indians had burned away the trees and grown their maize. Upon settling Mr. Fox set assiduously at work in clearing his land and preparing it for cultivation. Before the Indians had driven him off his possession, he had made considerable progress, afforded horses, cows, etc., and indeed had really begun to enjoy himself in his wild and isolated home.

After returning, in 1783, he occupied the original site for a few years then built another and better log house about twenty rods west of the brick house standing near the railroad crossing at the nail-works. The great overflows that sometimes occurred in those days, no doubt drove him to

the hill-side. Here in this lot, where Mr. Fox resided until his death, is the orchard yet standing and bearing fruit, which he set out with his own hands.

The career of this interesting character, the man who dared to strike the first blows of civilization in "old Bradford" (to-day with a population of sixty thousand persons, and one of the most progressive and influential counties in the Commonwealth) was brought suddenly to a close March 4th, 1806. It being spring Mr. Fox concluded to have a mess of fish. Consequently he repaired to the river a short distance above the mouth of the creek, where he ventured out on the ice to cast his line in a hole. The ice being thin it gave way with him, and being unable to get out without aid was drowned. The place to this day is familiarly known as "The Fox Hole." *Rudolph Fox*, the hero and bold pioneer, was born in Germany, March 29th, 1739, O. S., married *Catherine Elizabeth Miller*, a German lady, and as already stated came to Bradford county from the Mohawk Valley in 1770. He was a man of heroic mould, having all the elements that combine in courage and physique to make a man equal to the test in a wild country, inhabited only by Red men, and the other savage denizens of the wood. He was short and thick-set, a regular German, both in figure and language. He, however, acquired the English vernacular, but spoke it very brokenly. In religion he was a Methodist, as were all the family save Deacon John. Mrs. Fox was born May 4th, 1748, O. S., and died suddenly April 3, 1810. She is described as "a large fleshy lady, weighing over two hundred pounds,

possessed of a kind and noble heart." In sickness she was ever ready to administer to the wants of the afflicted, and at the instance of her death, the good Samaritan was on her road to care for the sick.

This heroic couple are buried at Cole's, where a plain gray stone marks their resting-place.

Unto Rudolph Fox and Elizabeth Miller were born fifteen children, ten girls and five boys, viz: Catharine, Mary, Philip, Elizabeth, Dorothy, Daniel, Rudolph, John, Anna, Eleanor, Susanna, Abraham, Margaret and Christiana.

*Catharine Fox* (born Nov. 9, 1764,) married Henry, son of Sebastian Strope, one of the first settlers of Wysox.

*Mary Fox* (born Sept. 7, 1766,) married Jacob Bowman, one of the first settlers of Towanda. She reared a large family and died in the township of her childhood, May 23, 1841, and is buried beside her husband at Cole's.

*Philip Fox* (born Sept. 12, 1768,) lived in Ohio for some years, subsequently returned to Towanda, where he died with his brother, John. He is also buried beside his parents at Cole's.

*Elizabeth Fox* (born Sept. 1, 1770,) was, without doubt, *the first white child* born in Bradford county. She was a real heroine, and were the many incidents connected with her life woven into a story, they would make a novel, unsurpassing in interest. All her years, save about five, were spent within a mile and a-half of the spot of her birth. She lived to see the forests give way to broad and fruitful fields—

"And where once, so dismal, she heard the wolves yell,  
Joyous to her ear, long after, came the sound of the church-going bell."

Prosperous villages had sprung up all around, the "iron-horse" rattled over the rails, and forty-three thousand people had increased the number (in the county) since she was born. The Indian had gone to the far West, and where once he roamed, she listened to the rattle and rumble of the machinery of progressive man. Her abode had changed from the bark-covered cabin to the cottage, supplied with all the comforts of her earthly wants.

Witnessing so great a change in a lifetime, it is hardly necessary to say that her "reviews" were listened to with great interest by young and old alike.

She was united in marriage with Wm. Means, Esq., the first settler of Towanda borough, whom she survived many years, after rearing a family.

In her closing days she took great comfort in perusing the sacred pages of her Bible. So zealous was she to know the Holy Book, that she learned to read after she was seventy years of age, there being no opportunity of obtaining an education in her younger days.

After a long and useful life this good woman passed peacefully away, July 21, 1851. Her body is sepulchred in the family burial ground on Second street in Towanda village.

*Dorothy Fox* (born Aug. 1, 1772,) married a Mr. Townsend, of near Penn Yan, N. Y.

*Daniel Fox* (born Aug. 27, 1774,) went to Ohio, became wealthy and died there.

*Rudolph Fox, Jr.*, (born Sept. 24, 1776,) also went to the "Buckeye State" and died at Cincinnati.

*Deacon John Fox* (born Oct. 31, 1778, at Sunbury, Pa.)



married *Mary*, daughter of Gordon and Mary Chapman Fowler, of Monroe, Oct. 21, 1802, and occupied the homestead. His biographer says of him : " John Fox was a man of great energy in business, of public spirit and social virtues. His Christian character was quite as prominent as any other trait. He was early impressed with a sense of eternal things, and indulged hope in Christ at the age of fifteen years. He first joined with the Methodist church, and remained for a short time. Mr. Fox subsequently joined the Congregational (as it was then called) church at Wysox and held the office of deacon. He with others united in the organization of the Presbyterian church at Towanda and was one of the first ruling elders." Mr. Fox was an economist (as all the early settlers had to be) and amassed a fine property.

Considering the state of the country at this time, it will not appear incredible to state that he grew to manhood without the knowledge of letters, and learned to read after his marriage. His wife had been a school-teacher—the first in Monroe. Mr. Fox died April 15, 1855, and his wife (born March 31, 1777,) Jan. 17, 1858. They are buried in " Riverside Cemetery." Their marriage was blessed by the following-named children :

*Olive*, (born Oct. 24, 1803,) married Thomas Elliott, for many years one of the most prominent merchants of Towanda. Mrs. Elliott is yet living and is a lady of fine intelligence and memory, considering her years.

*Miller*, (born Aug. 23, 1805,) for some years a civil engineer, occupied a portion of the " Foxchase " farm (said to be the first land patent in Bradford county), where he died March 20, 1885. For biographical sketch see Appendix.

*Mary* (born June 20, 1808,) married Wm. W. Goodrich, of Owego, N. Y., who for some years engaged in business at Towanda.

*John Marvin* (born Nov. 5, 1810) occupies a part of the homestead, and is one of the most thrifty farmers in the township. He has been an industrious, hard-working husbandman, and is a highly respected citizen. He was joined in marriage with Miss Alvira A. Baird, of Chenango county, N. Y.

*Priscilla Brunette* (born June 13, 1813) married Rev. Julius Foster, for twenty-seven years pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Towanda. She died Sept. 2, 1842, and is buried at "Riverside."

*Hiram Chapman* (born July 11, 1817) married Miss Elizabeth Taylor of Standing Stone; occupied a part of the homestead; died Sept. 29, 1860.

*Anna Fox* (born Oct. 24, 1780).

*Eleanor Fox* (born Oct. 24, 1782) also married a Mr. Strope of Wysox.

*Susanna Fox* (born Feb. 15, 1785) married Nathan Farr, who resided in Towanda for a few years, at an early day, but subsequently moved west.

*Abraham Fox* (born March 30, 1787) married Nancy, daughter of Jonathan and Sally Fowler, of Monroe. The last years of his life were spent upon a farm at Liberty Corners, where he died. He is buried in the Liberty Corners Cemetery.

*Margaret Fox* (born Feb. 12, 1798) married Amos Goff (brother of "William") of Monroe.

*Delia Fox* (born April 4, 1791) married Wm. Goff of Monroe, and is buried at Cole's.

*Christiana Fox* (born —, 1793) married a Mr. Grant of Penn Yan, N. Y.

*The Bowman Family.*—Jacob Bowman was a German, and no doubt one of the New York Palatines. He came to the county and settled on the Towanda Creek before the Revolutionary War. Upon the breaking out of hostilities he remained loyal to the Crown of England, and when the war clouds began to darken in the Susquehanna Valley, he moved to Canada, leaving his son Jacob in possession of the farm. Like many others in the county, "Jacob" was led to believe that King George was right, and accordingly joined the British and Indians. From this circumstance he gained the appellation of "Tory Bowman," by which name the old people generally speak of him. After the war he returned to the county and settled the farm\* now occupied by his grandson, B. F. Bowman, on the east side of Towanda Creek.

Mr. Bowman was a man of enterprise, and was licensed an "inn-keeper" at the August session of the Luzerne County Court in 1801. In the assessment made for Towanda in 1809, he has a store, tavern and mill. Originally he built a one-story house, but having increased his business by putting in a stock of goods, he added a building (framed)

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\* He received a warrant for a tract of land on the east side of the Towanda Creek, at its mouth, Feb. 1, 1793. The survey was made December, 1803, and the patent issued June 27, 1805. Also, an agreement is made between the Asylum Co., and Jacob Bowman, "inn-keeper," Dec. 31, 1803, for the sale of a tract of land, bounded by Jacob Bowman and Reuben Hale, it being a part of a tract surveyed to John Singer on a warrant dated July 1, 1784.

of two stories. To enlarge his patronage, he established a ferry near the mouth of the creek across the river. He also put up a distillery and manufactured "whisky."

"Bowman's" became a place of note, and was a favorite *rendezvous* for raftsmen. Mr. Bowman did a flourishing business for several years, and at one time it was a question whether he or his brother-in-law, Wm Means, would succeed in establishing the place of more importance.

His demise occurred at the homestead, June 21, 1845, at the age of 86 years, 3 months and 27 days.

The children of Jacob and Mary Fox-Bowman were:—George, Jacob, John, Daniel, Mary, Rebecca, Hannah, Susan and Harry.

*George* married Orace Miller and resided upon the place now occupied by his son, Leroy Bowman, where he died April 30, 1860, aged 72 years, 2 months and 14 days. Mrs. Bowman died Dec. 8, 1876, aged 86 years and 5 months. They are buried at Cole's.

*Jacob, Jr.*, (born Dec. 16, 1791) married Sally Rockwell, sister of Abner C. Rockwell, of Munroe, and succeeded to the ancestral estate, where he died Oct. 18, 1874. Mrs. Bowman, (born Jan. 3, 1791) died Aug. 16, 1874. They are buried at "Riverside."

*John*, married Peggie Rolls and lived in Ulster, where he died.

*Daniel*, born March 29, 1797, married Sarah A. Daugherty (Dorety), and lived upon the place now occupied by his son, Orange Bowman. He died Dec. 13, 1875, and is buried at Cole's. Mrs. Bowman was born June 20, 1797, and is yet living.

*Mary* married Wm. McGill, of Towanda, always lived in the town of her nativity, and died June 29, 1849, aged 59 years, 7 months and 25 days. She is buried beside her husband at Cole's

*Rebecca* (commonly called "Beckie") married James Watts, an early resident of Towanda borough. She is buried in "Riverside" cemetery.

*Hannah* married Henry ("Harry") Fausey, a shoemaker, for some years a resident of the township. She died Nov. 20, 1837, aged 35 years, 9 months and 22 days, and is buried at Cole's.

*Susan* married Means Watts, a brother of "James," and resided in the township until her death. She is buried at "Riverside."

*Harry* died when a young man.

*Jacob Grantier*\*, a German, came from Schoharie, N. Y., and settled on the Towanda creek in about 1784-85. His log house† stood about eighty rods south of Maj. Hale's present residence; and it will be remembered that it was here that Rev. Thomas Smiley was tarred-and-feathered by the "Wild Yankees" in 1801. In a deed‡, dated March 7, 1802, Mr. Grantier transfers his claim to Reuben Hale, and removed to Canton with his family the same spring, where descendants of the name may yet be found.

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\*The name is sometimes pronounced by the old people as if it were spelled *Granadier*, but Mr. G. wrote it as above.

†From the narrative of Mrs. Dodge *nee* Mary Wythe: "Mr. Grantier first settled the place now occupied by H. L. Scott, his father-in-law, Tabor, living with him there. He sold out to a man named Brown and moved to the other side of the creek."

‡An article of agreement between Jacob Grantier and Reuben Hale, dated Jan. 7, 1801, reads: "I, Jacob Grantier, do this day promise to deed to Reuben Hale the whole of my farm

*The Scovell (or Scoville) Family.*—Elisha Scovell, with his family, removed from Connecticut to Exter, Luzerne County, Pa., whence James, Silas and Orr (sons) found their way into the State of New York, and settled at "Mud Creek," where they remained for a short time only. From here they come to Towanda in about 1788, and purchased lots in Claverack under the Connecticut title.

*James and Silas* purchased a possession of a man named Smith, who "farmed a little and preached a little" as necessity required or occasion afforded. They at first located on the "Means property" west of the nail-works, where Silas built and occupied the first, or one of the first, framed houses in the township. James returned to Luzerne county, and Silas kept "bachelor's hall," until 1796, when he married Abigail Harris, of Luzerne county, Pa.

*Orr* purchased and settled the place now owned and occupied by H. L. Scott, Esq. He married Miss Polly, daughter of Ezra Rutty of North Towanda, and moved to Canton near the beginning of the present century, and subsequently to Indiana where he died.

and possessions, it being the place which I now live on, containing 300 acres, with all the privileges and appurtenances belonging thereunto (including an island lot of 31 acres); and further promise to execute to the said Reuben Hale on the 1st day of December, 1801, etc, And I, the said Reuben Hale, of the second part, agree to pay the said Grantier \$20 on the signing and sealing of this agreement; and \$300 the first day of December next, \$53 of it to be cash and sixty dollars in *whisky*, the remainder to be paid in neat cattle or grain, at the common going price. I further promise to pay the said Jacob \$53 in cash and \$147 in neat cattle or grain (as above) one year from the 1st day of next December. Also \$53 in cash and \$147 in neat cattle or grain (as above) two years from the 1st day of next December."

Witnesses:  
 REED BROCKWAY,  
 WILLIAMS LEE,  
 EZRA ALGAR.

(Signed) JACOB GRANTIER,  
 REUBEN HALE.

Soon after his marriage, Silas moved to the place of his son, Harry, and lived in a log house a short distance above Mr. Scovell's present residence. This building he afterwards tore down and re-erected on the very site of the dwelling which Mr. Scovell now occupies, the last, being the fourth house in succession on the same ground, two having been burned. Mr. Scovell employed his time most diligently in the improvement of his farm, and in earning few dollars outside as opportunity would permit. He generally drove three ox-teams, and used to make trips with them to the "Lake country," taking mill-stones, and bringing back salt, which then sold for thirteen dollars per barrel. There was but little money in circulation, and this was, indeed, very hard to get. A cow was worth only \$8 and a horse \$50. Milling had to be done at Wilkes-Barre, and it was only by earnest scrabbling that those daring men of the woods got along. They were required to practice the utmost economy, and yet they were hospitable and ready to share the last parcel with each other. Mr. Scovell was not the exception, and his house was ever the home of the Connecticut emigrants, sometimes for weeks together, while they were looking about for a place to make a home. He left a fine property at his death in 1824, which is yet in possession of the Scovell family. Silas Scovell was born March 18, 1763; married June 4, 1796; died June 28, 1824. Abigail Harris, his wife, was born March 1, 1774; died Feb. 28, 1855. Their remains are supulchered at Cole's. Their children were, Phœbe, Peter H., Harry, Calista, Caroline, Silas, Joseph Jenkins, and Abigail.

*Phæbe* (born March 9, 1799) married Nathan Stevens of Stevensville (dead).

*Peter Harris* (born Feb. 26, 1801) married Olive Ackley of Tuscarora, and occupied a portion of the homestead, now the property of Mrs. Wolfe (dead).

*Harry* (born Feb. 13, 1803) married first Sarah Courtwright, of Exeter, Pa., and after her death Elizabeth Titus, of Smithfield. He succeeded to the place which he now occupies, and is yet a gentleman of much mental and physical vigor.

*Celista* (born Nov. 24, 1804) died unmarried June 28, 1824.

*Caroline* (born Sept. 27, 1806) married H. S. Frazier of Wyalusing (dead).

*Silas, Jr.*, (born Oct. 14, 1808) married Maria Dill of Sullivan county, and occupied that part of the homestead now owned by his son, G. W. Scovell. He died Oct. 18, 1852.

*Joseph Jenkins* (born Nov. 4, 1810) married Harriet Taylor of LeRaysville and occupies a part of the homestead.

*Abigail* (born Feb. 14, 1817) married E. Reuben Delong of North Towanda.

*Richard Goff* was perhaps originally from Connecticut, but is said to have moved to Towanda directly from Unadilla, N.Y. The date of his advent into the township is not exactly known. In the assessment made for "Wysocks," 1796, he had eleven acres of improved land and one hundred fifteen unimproved, and four head of cattle. Hence, we would conclude that he located in about 1794. His farm was next to the Monroe line, adjoining Jared Woodruff's, on



the south side of the creek; and his house was near the creek, some distance off the road leading from Rockwell's to Bowman's. Mr. Goff died upon the homestead, May 19, 1829, aged 84 years, and is buried at Cole's. His wife, Phœbe Hubbel, was a sister of Mrs. Samuel Cranmer. She died Dec. 29, 1836, aged 72 years, and is buried beside her husband.

The children of Richard and Phœbe Goff were—William, Humphrey, James, Amos, Sarah ("Sally") and David

*William* married a daughter of Rudolph Fox and settled on a portion of his father's place, his house being on the main road next above his brother's, Humphrey. He subsequently moved to Canton township, where he died.

*Humphrey* married Miss Eunice, daughter of Sheffield Wilcox, Sr., one of the pioneers into Albany. He resided in Albany township for a short time, then returned to Towanda and occupied a portion of the homestead until 1840, when he moved to Liberty Corners and there remained until the time of his demise.

William, Humphrey and Amos Goff were drafted into the war of 1812. They returned after a month's absence.

The Goff estate passed into the hands of the Hales, Maj. E. W. now owning the same.

*Joshua Wythe* was an officer in the war for American Independence, and served his country faithfully under Washington, during those seven trying years. He was a resident of Boston, and was burned out in the great fire of that city about 1791, and soon after removed to the lake region of central New York to find a home and retrieve his fortunes.

Here the family were sorely afflicted with the ill incident to that region, and on his recovery sufficiently to enable him to travel, he came to Towanda, in 1794, in his pursuit of a more favorable locality for a home. He purchased\* a farm of 250 acres on Towanda Creek of *John Heath*, who had made the original possession and was living upon the same. The location is well known as the George Bowman place.

Mrs. Wythe, formerly Miss Elizabeth Brewer, of Cambridge, died in 1805†, and Mr. Wythe subsequently returned to Boston, married a second wife and emigrated to Ohio. Having selected a home, he sent for his children and all, save Mary who was about to be married, joined him.

The children of Joshua and Elizabeth Wythe were—

*Susanna*, who married a Mr. Leonard and moved West ;

*Elisha*, who married Nancy Salisbury, of Monroe, and removed to Delaware county, Ohio ;

*Joshua*, who married Hannah Pond, and went West with his brother ;

*George*, who learned the printer's trade in Harrisburg, thence moved to Pittsburg and subsequently to Kentucky ;

*Harriet*, who married John Bates and lived in Covington, Ky ;

*Mary*, who married, first Daniel Gilbert, second, Major Oliver Williams Dodge ; *Prentice* ; *Francis* ; *Nancy* ; *Elizabeth* ; *Henry* ; *Fanny*.

Mr. Wythe died at Cincinnati.

\* Heath transferred in December, 1792, but Wythe, perhaps, did not take possession until 1794. Heath was a settler before the year 1786.

† She is buried on the flats of Mr. Bowman, the railroad passing over her grave.

*Nathaniel Heacock* came to Claverack previous to the year 1786, and lived next to Mr. Heath. "Heath's land joined Heacock's farm westerly." Who these two men were, or what became of them, is not known.

*Elijah Head* moved in on pack-horses from Dutchess Co., N. Y., sometime between 1790 and '96, and settled on what was afterwards known as the Daniel Bowman place. He planted the orchard still standing on that farm. Becoming tired of the privations of the new country, he determined to look for a more favorable location. For this purpose he went up into the State of New York, where he was accidentally killed. His widow afterwards married Henry Salisbury, Esq., of Monroe. George Head, Sr., also from Dutchess county, with a large family settled in Monroe before 1796.

*Job Irish* came from Columbia county, N. Y., on or before the year 1796. He at first settled on the "Patton place," which he afterwards sold to Capt Geo. Alger. He was a man of natural talents and became somewhat noted as a pettifogger. He was also a Methodist preacher for a short time. In matters pertaining to the township he generally took an active part. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Salisbury, of Monroe. Their children were—

*Henry*, who married Polly Schrader, of Monroe, and moved West;

*Jedediah*, who married Mahala Arnout, of Monroe, moved to Mauch Chunk and became a man of considerable prominence;

*Betsy*, who married Ebenezer Titus, of Smithfield;

*Susan*, who married Ephraim Ladd, Jr., of Albany ;

*Catharine*, who married Isaac Ellsworth and moved west ;  
*Polly*, *Job*, *George*, and *Ferdinand* (or Frederick). The boys  
 all left the county.

Mr. Irish died April 5, 1825, aged 52 years, and his wife  
 May 1, 1836, at the age of 63 years. They are buried at  
 Cole's.

*Capt. George Alger* "learning that a fortune could soon  
 be had by investing in the rich lands found in the Susque-  
 hanna Valley in northern Pennsylvania, sold his mill prop-  
 erty at Chatham, Columbia county, N. Y., and set out to find  
 the new *Eldorado*." He arrived at Towanda in 1800 (or  
 1801) and purchased of Job Irish the farm since know as  
 the "Alger place," or better known at this date as the  
 "Patton farm." He was a man of enterprise and soon after  
 locating upon the farm, erected a framed barn and set out  
 fruit trees. Through untiring industry it was not long  
 before his farm was well improved and stocked. He was  
 not only a pains-taking husbandman, but as well was a  
 skillful cooper, and supplied the neighborhood with bar-  
 rels, churns, etc. Mr. Alger also furnished the people, even  
 to the head of the creek, with pewter spoons. He had a  
 set of moulds, with which he could manufacture these table  
 pieces. He had been a sea captain for fourteen years. Mr.  
 Alger did not live many years after coming to the country.  
 He died between 1809 and '12, and was buried a short dis-  
 tance from his double-log house in his garden. His wife,  
 Sarah, who survived him several years is buried beside him.  
 Two daughters came to Towanda with them. *Lois* married

Edsell Carr and moved to Ohio; *Irene* married, first, Joseph Brown, who occupied the homestead for a time, and after his death Moses Carter. Mrs. John Cranmer (daughter of Mrs. Steel *nee* Phœbe Alger,) who is yet living at the age of 82 years, spent her childhood days with Mr. and Mrs. Alger. The Alger property finally passed into the hands of John Mintz.

*Reuben Hale*, a native of Glastonbury, Conn., having arrived at full and active manhood, caught the ardor of the Connecticut people in going to the rich and beautiful Susquehanna Valley of the west to make a fortune and a home. A brother had already settled on the Juniata. He made him a visit, then pushed on to Tioga Point to examine the country, and pay his respects to the family of Isaac Tracy, former acquaintances in the "Land of Steady Habits." While here, he was induced to buy a tract of land lying on Towanda Creek, near its mouth. This was deeded to him by George Wells, June 14, 1799. He subsequently made several additional purchases of lands adjoining, and became the sole owner of the "old saw-mill" on *Towandee Creek*. On the 27th of February, 1803, Mr. Hale was united in marriage with Miss *Wealthy*, daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Rogers Tracy, of Tioga Point. He moved into a log house which had been occupied by the *Doughertys*. This building stood about seventy rods southwest of Maj. Hale's present residence, near the creek. Here he lived until 1810, when he erected and occupied the spacious mansion well known as the Hale residence. The location is a most pleasing and sightly one. A few rods below is

" Indian Point," a natural fortress, which was yet occupied by the Red men when the first white people came to the township.

In 1810 Mr. Hale was appointed the first postmaster of Towanda. He was a man possessed of fine judgment, and developed a good business. Among other things, as was the custom in those days, he operated a distillery. Being frugal, he earned a handsome property, which he left to his children. He was prominent among the citizens of the county, and for several years served the people as a Justice-of-the-Peace.

Mr. Hale's demise occurred at the homestead January 30, 1825. He was born Feb. 6, 1773.

*Wealthy Hale*, born Jan. 15, 1777, was a lady of refinement. She was one of the first school teachers in Towanda. She died April 12, 1854, and her remains repose beside those of her husband in Riverside Cemetery. The children of Reuben and Wealthy Hale were: Eliza, Nancy, James T., Reuben W., and Elias W.

*Eliza*, born Nov. 27, 1804; married Gen. Wm. Patton of Towanda; died July 9, 1841.

*Nancy*, born March 14, 1808; married Benjamin Spees; died Feb. 6, 1832.

*James Tracy*, born Oct. 14, 1810, became eminent as a lawyer, jurist, etc. For biographical sketch see Appendix.

*Reuben White*, born Jan. 24, 1815, was a young man of much promise; died Nov. 3, 1835.

*Elias Wellington*, born Dec. 13, 1816, married Mary J. Taylor, of Glastonbury, Conn., and occupies the patrimo-

nial estate. For several years he was interested in lumbering and milling. He is a successful farmer and business man, and one of the directors of the First National Bank of Towanda. Having been appointed Major of militia by Gov. Porter, he is popularly known as "Major Hale." In 1850 he was appointed deputy U. S. marshal, and as such enumerated the census of Towanda. In 1864 he was chosen presidential elector for this Congressional district.

The children of Maj. E. W. and Mary J. Hale are five. The eldest son, James T., a graduate of Lafayette College, studied law with Rodney A. Mercur, Esq., of Towanda, and was admitted to practice in the several courts of Bradford county in 1879. Wishing to grow more rapidly in his profession, in the summer of 1884 he went West and located at Duluth, Minn. Here his abilities were at once recognized, and so popular had he become that at the end of nine months he received the appointment of Judge of the Municipal Court to fill a vacancy—a rare honor conferred upon a man of so few years. Benjamin T., the second son, is also a member of the Bradford county bar, and an enterprising business man of Towanda.

—The old orchard upon the place of Maj. Hale is said to be from seeds which Reuben Hale procured of the French refugees, which they brought from France.

*The Singers.*—Casper Singer of Philadelphia, according to his own deposition, "came to his tract of land\* lying on

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\* There is recorded in the Register's Office at Wilkes-Barre, "a patent from the Commonwealth to Wm. Geisse of Phila., dated June 21, 1786, for a tract of land called *Geisseland*

the Towanda Creek, in the township of Wysocks, in the year 1791, built a house, and proceeded at great expense to clear and fence the same, upon which he lived four years unmolested." The exact spot of Mr. Singer's home is not known; but it was undoubtedly on the south side of the creek, somewhere on the farm of Maj. Hale. On a map made in 1794, near the mouth of "Towandee Creek," is marked a saw-mill, called "Singer's." This was the same mill that was afterwards owned by Lewis, Wells, Hale and others; and it would be most reasonable to suppose that it was owned by Singer at that date, and that his house stood near by.

In the assessment made for "Wysocks" in 1796, Casper Singer has 24 acres of improved land, 96 unimproved, two horses and a cow.

In the desposition of Mr. Singer made at Philadelphia Nov. 11th, 1796, he states "that in the same neighborhood were living (1795) Orr Scovell, *Joseph Gee*, Jacob Bowman, Jacob Grantier, *Joseph Wallace*, *Michael Krause* and Stephen Strickland, on lands taken up under Connecticut title." The locations of Scovell, Bowman and Grantier have been given.

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on the south side of Towanda Creek, below and adjoining land of Casper Singer, and also bounded in part by Wm. Morrison's land—the said tract was surveyed to John Singer, May 8, 1786, who conveyed to Geisse June 10, 1786. December 27, 1787, Wm. Giesse conveys to Casper Singer the same tract. March 11, 1794, Casper Singer sells to Hon. John Nicholson one lot near the mouth of Towanda Creek, and a number tracts on the same creek. Some of these tracts subsequently become part of the Asylum Company's lands. May 21, 1792, Rudolph Fox sells to Casper Singer a part of the Fox Chase. July 13, 1800, the heirs of Casper Singer sell to John and Abraham Singer of Philadelphia, a lot on Towanda Creek adjoining Peter Markoe, it being a part of a lot settled by Rudolph Fox. April 2, 1802, Abraham Singer sells to John Singer his interest in the said lot." A part of the land described was in certified Claverack, when Connecticut titles prevailed.



Strickland at that time, was living on the Cole place in Monroe, but who Gee, Krause and Wallace were, and the places of their settlement, are problems which we have been unable to solve.

*Nathan Farr* (son-in-law of Mr. Fox) also undoubtedly lived on Towanda Creek for a time. He had purchased under Asylum Company, but sold to Reuben Hale in 1805. In 1806 he bought a lot of Rudolph Fox, but sold it again the same year to John and Daniel Fox.

*James Davidson* was an early settler in Claverack, under Connecticut title, coming thereto in about 1794. He located near the nail works, on a tract of land known as the "Means property." Here he remained until about 1809, when his title was transferred to Wm. Means. Mr. Davidson then removed with his family to Bainbridge, N. Y., where he subsequently died. He lost his first wife in Towanda, and afterwards married the "Widow Loomis." The children resulting from his first marriage were Richard, George, James and Lydia (Mrs. Patchin). *Richard* married Miss Thankful, daughter of Wm. Finch, of Towanda, and was the father of Benjamin Davidson, a resident of Towanda township. He remained in the township until after his first wife's death, then married Polly Frisbie, of Monroe, and emigrated to Ohio, where he died.

By his second marriage James Davidson had a son, Henry, and a daughter.

*Henry* was quite a prominent business man and died in Ulster. The *daughter* was the mother of Judge Long, of Burlington.

*David Blanchard* was an inhabitant of Towanda in 1799. He for a time lived above Mintz's, on the left-hand side of the Monroeton road. In about 1817 he left with his family. Mrs. Blanchard is said to have been an ardent Methodist.

*Pearly ("Parley") White* came to the township in or before the year 1801. He began on the Daniel Bowman place, and lived there until 1819, when he sold out and went West. He is well remembered by many of the old people. As was the fashion in those days, he wore "buckskin trousers," and it is said of him that he sold his to buy his wife a looking-glass. It was a privation to him, but no doubt a gratification to Mrs. White.

*Reese Stevens* was also a resident of Towanda in 1801. He married the "Widow Neeley," and lived upon the Geo. Bowman place for a few years. Here he died, and is buried on the flats near the railroad. By occupation he was a shoemaker.

*The Doughertys*.—"William Daugherty" was assessed in "Wysocks" in 1796, and is no doubt the Dougherty living near the mouth of Towanda Creek when Mr. Hale made his purchase. Here was a mill, which from reliable evidence he, at least, operated for a short time. In about 1800 he established himself at Greenwood, and opened a house of entertainment. He also built a saw-mill there and did a prosperous business. He was an Irishman, and had moved from Northumberland county. "Samuel Daugherty" was a son. They moved west in 1841.

*James M. Daugherty*, a brother of William, came from Milton, Northumberland county also, but not so early. He

lived on the run above Mr. H. L. Scott's and died there. He was twice married before moving to Bradford county. Of the first children a son, George, and two daughters, one married Daniel Bowman and is still living, the other Wm. Vandike. Of the second set of children Eliza married a Mr. Haxton, of Canton, and Anna remained single.

*Daniel Gilbert*, a native of New London, Conn., when a child three years old, moved with his father's family to the Wyoming Valley. From here Samuel Gilbert found his way into Bradford county, at first settling for a short time in Wyalusing township, thence moving to Asylum, located upon the farm, which has ever since been owned by the Gilberts—a great grand-son, Oliver A., being the present proprietor.

In 1808, Daniel married Miss Mary Wythe. He purchased a lot of her father, Joshua Wythe, and settled upon it the same year. In 1810, he built the house and barn yet standing upon the place, the former being occupied as a residence by Mr. Leroy Bowman. In 1813, Mr. Gilbert traded for the Dougherty property at Greenwood. This he sold in 1816, and purchased the "Mintz place," where he remained until 1827, when he again sold and moved to the "Edsall Carr" place. Here he died April 13, 1835, at the age of 52 years. Mrs. Gilbert afterwards married Maj. O. W. Dodge, who died in 1845. In 1861, Mrs. Dodge moved to Franklin and lived with her son, Nelson, until the time of her demise, Dec. 9th, 1882, being nearly 92 years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert are buried at Cole's. Of their four sons—

*Nelson* (born Dec. 24, 1811) late Jury Commissioner, and

well known citizen of the county, resides in Franklin ; *John* in Nebraska ; and *Samuel* in Franklin.

*John Mintz* purchased the Alger property and came thereto in 1812. He was a man of considerable enterprise. Soon after coming to the place he opened a house of entertainment. His hotel stood above the road on the rise of ground near the creek. Below the road, opposite the house he built a saw-mill. This was supplied with water brought through a race. Very frequently the stream was dry and the mill without motive power, whence the people called it the "Dry Saw-mill." Mr. Mintz took an active part in local politics, and in 1815 was the candidate for Sheriff on the "Merino ticket." In Towanda he received 60 votes against 45 for Spalding (Federal), and 30 for Tozer (Democrat).

*Dr. Caleb W. Miles*, who located in the township as early as 1814, lived on the road leading to Bowman's, between Humphrey Goff's and Mr. Hale's. "He was a reliable man, and counted a good physician for the time." Wm. Means induced him to Towanda, and built him a house on the lot, where John E. Fox's residence now is. Here he died in about 1828 ; and he and his wife are buried in the Mean's ground on Second street. Dr. Miles was the father of Geo. Miles, who at one time had a watch shop in Towanda.

*Horatio Ladd*, a native of Connecticut, emigrated from the East in 1800, and in that same year went up the South Branch into Albany with an exploring party, and cut the first brush heap in that township. He remained upon the Scott place for five years, then moved to his possession in Albany, being one of the pioneers there.

*James Roals* lived in a log house on Welles's flats, a few rods below the Towanda Creek bridge. His name appears for the first time upon the assessment rolls in 1809. The family finally moved up into the State of New York. The Roals children were—John, James, George, William, Polly and Lovina.

*Elias Thompson* had the reputation of being "a capital shoemaker, but was a drinking man." He was an inhabitant of the township in 1809, and lived on the "Foxchase" flats. He moved to Monroe and died on the John Mingos place. *William Thompson* was assessed in "Wysocks" in 1799, and "William Thompson" and "Daniel Thompson" in Towanda in 1812.

*John Felton*, "the first constable" of Towanda (1808), was a resident in 1799. From notes on Claverack—"Orr Scovell sells lot No. 4 to John Felton (July, 1799,) and Felton again to Scovell (Dec. 15, 1800, also Oct., 1802)."

*James Lewis*, whose early history is romantic (see Monroe), upon selling out his interest in a grist-mill and lot of land in Wysox to John Hinman in 1793, came to Towanda Creek, made a purchase, and is said to have erected the original saw-mill at Hale's. He was a millwright, which would substantiate the claim, but whether he built the mill for himself or others is a question. Apparently, his having done the mechanical work gave him an interest. On the 9th of May, 1798, for a consideration of £125 Pennsylvania currency, he sells a one-fourth interest in a saw-mill and 300 acres of land, "between Jacob Grantier's and Jacob Bowman's, to Stephen Strickland," his wife, Mary, joining with

him in executing the deed. Strickland conveyed to Silas Scovell, and Scovell to Reuben Hale (1803).

Lewis lived in Towanda village for a few years, or rather where Towanda village now is, then moved into Monroe where he died in 1822. His son, *Timothy Harrison*, born in 1798, near the Episcopal church, is said to have been the first white child born within the limits of Towanda borough.

*Lorenzo Hovey* was a lumberman and also lived at Hale's. By a contract dated Aug. 23, 1800, Reuben Hale leases to Lorenzo Hovey and Adrian Manville a certain tract of land and a grist-mill and saw-mill, for a term of five years. In the assessment of Towanda for 1809 he is rated with two cows, two acres of improved land, four unimproved, and one-half saw mill.

*Isaac Sutton* was a resident of the township as early as 1812. By occupation he was a carpenter, and lived in the vicinity of the "Dry Saw-mill." He was one of the first constables of Towanda.

#### EARLY SETTLERS OF SUGAR CREEK.

Under the rule of the Susquehanna Company, the owner of a township was obliged to have a certain number of actual settlers upon his grant within a certain time, or the deed was forfeited. Captain Solomon Strong, of the State of New York, but living for a number of years in the Lackawanna Valley, and Jeremiah Hogaboom, of the city of Hudson, N. Y., were the principal owners of the township of Claverack and managers of the settlements. They immediately, after the declaration of peace, began to exert themselves to pro-

cure settlers for their township, and in the years 1785-6-7 several families came in and located on Sugar Creek. Among the first of these was the Rutty family.

*Ezra Rutty*, a gentleman of Dutch descent, came from Pawling's precinct, Dutchess Co., N. Y., to Sugar Creek in 1785. Mr. Rutty and his eldest son each took up a hundred acres\* known as lots numbered 46 and 47. He also purchased three hundred acres, being numbers 41, 42 and 43, on a proprietor's right laid to Amos Franklin and by various conveyances to claimant. These five hundred acres comprised what has been known for a century as the "Rutty farm," and which has been in the occupancy of the descendants of the pioneer ever since.

When Mr. Rutty came to North Towanda, there were yet a few friendly Indians living up Sugar Creek on what are now the flats of David Rutty. Willows grew profusely in the rich, marshy ground along the creek, and these they gathered and constructed into baskets. The squaws took a great liking to Mr. Rutty's little son (Ezra), and would carry him about in their baskets, sometimes to the amusement but more frequently to the alarm of the mother. The Indians grew corn, which they buried to keep through the winter.

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\*The Commissioners under the Compromise law of 1799, where the claim was made on the ground of settlement, required proof of the settlement. It was shown, and Judge Cooper says assented to generally and proved by the deposition of Abial Foster, that Strong's conditions of settlement were that one hundred acres were granted to each person who became an actual settler previous to a given date. On this ground Mr. Rutty preferred his claim for two hundred acres. On the Commissioners' docket is this entry: "Abial Foster deposes to claimant (Ezra Rutty) and his son coming into Claverack under Strong and Hogaboom, in 1785." Henry Salisbury deposes that, in 1785, Strong mentioned to deponent the names of Rutty and his son as among the settlers then in Claverack.

Mr. Rutty, upon locating, built a log house about twenty rods southwest of where his grandson, Ezra 3rd, now resides. After a few years he built the large frame house now occupied by his grandson, and there lived until the time of his death.

This quaint old mansion—one of the oldest residences in the county—is well preserved and contains its original doors and floors. It has been the home of five generations of the Rutty family. After the new house was built the log house was converted into a distillery.

Soon after coming to the township Mr. Rutty started a nursery, and many of the old orchards in the neighborhood were taken from it. He not only grew apple trees, but peach and plum trees as well. Mr. Rutty's orchard was the oldest for miles around, and in the fall the early settlers were wont to make Mr. and Mrs. Rutty evening visits and enjoy eating fruit with them—a luxury which was most bountifully provided.

Mr. Rutty was a man of industry and enterprise, and made property; but while he succeeded well, at first he endured many privations. The first summer provisions were short. He would work until becoming faint from exhaustion; then go to the house and drink sparingly of their supply of milk, and only food. When his strength seemed to come back to him, he would resume his work as earnestly as before.

In the assessment for Towanda township in 1809, Ezra Rutty and Ezra Rutty, Jr., are rated with a framed house, 4 horses, 2 oxen, 4 cows, a distillery, 80 acres of improved land and 380 acres of unimproved. The assessment of Sam-



uel Rutty, who was rated with 30 acres of improved land and 220 acres of unimproved, was set over to Ezra Rutty, Jr.

Mr. Rutty died in 1813 and Mrs. Rutty five years subsequently. They are buried in "Riverside Cemetery."

The children of Ezra and *Anna* Rutty were—Samuel, Rebecca, Orrilla, Polly, Anna, Esther, Martha and Ezra.

*Samuel* lived in Canton township at the headwaters of the Towanda Creek;

*Rebecca* married Martin Stratton of North Towanda;

*Orrilla* married Garner Carpenter of North Towanda;

*Polly* married Orr Scovell, who moved from Canton township to Indiana;

*Anna* married Mr. Smith of Watertown, N. Y.;

*Martha* married Ozias Bingham of North Towanda.

*Esther* married Eleazer Allis of Allis Hollow;

*Ezra, Jr.*, married Polly Bloom of Burlington, and succeeded to the homestead. He was one of the foremost farmers of the county, raised wheat in large quantities, and took it by the ark-load down the river to market. For a few years he also did a considerable lumbering, but discontinued that business in about 1814. His doors were always open, and his house a favorite resort for raftsmen. Mr. Rutty had a big place in his heart for the distressed and poor, and will long be remembered for his true kindness of heart and generosity. He was a successful and enterprising man in business, and a firm believer in Universal Salvation. His life was gentle and his friends many. He died at the homestead June 12, 1855, aged 74 years, and his wife, Polly,

May 25, 1824, at the age of 38 years. They are buried at "Riverside." Unto Ezra and Polly Ratty were born—

*Weltha*, who married Henry Strobe of Burlington ;

*Anna*, who married, first, John Gillion of North Towanda, and afterwards Nathan Coon of the same township ;

*Lois*, who married Roderick Granger of North Towanda ;

*David*, who married, first, Margaret Granger, and subsequently Emeline Granger, resides upon a portion of the ancestral estate ;

*Polly*, who married Stephen Vroman of Granville ;

*Betsy*, who married George Taylor of Owego, N. Y. ;

*Patience*, who married Dr. Edward Mills of Ulster ;

*Ezra 3rd*, who married Ellen Wilson of Wheeling, Va., occupies the homestead. Lois, David, Patience and Ezra only are living.

*The Smiths.*—From notes of Judge Cooper, Commissioner in Claverack in August 1802—"John Smith on behalf of the legal representatives of Jonas Smith, deceased, claims 200 acres, part of numbers 69 and 70, bounded by the river and Sugar Creek, Jehiel Franklin swears: that *Jonas Smith* came in as a settler, under Hogaboom and Strong, seventeen years ago last summer (1875). Isaac Foster swears: that he was employed by Strong & Hogaboom to procure settlers about fifteen years ago (1787) and that there was a written contract, which he has now lost; that about seventeen years ago, on the application of Jonas Smith, he (Smith) and his eldest son, *Nathan* were admitted as settlers at 100 acres each. The heirs of Jonas Smith are Marcy Smith, and Nathan, Joseph, John, Charles, Jesse, Lydia

and Sarah Smith." Jonas Smith was assessed in "Wysocks" in 1799, hence he must have died between that time and 1802. "Phœbe Smith," widow of *John Smith* was residing upon a tract of land now in part included in the Mills estate, when Edward Mills came to the township in 1809. Her house stood above Mr. Mills's upper barn near a spring. Mrs. Coolbaugh states—"that Mr. Smith was frozen to death while hunting. The children were: Mercy, Fanny, Betsy, Phœbe, Isaac, and John. The eldest was nearly a young lady when we came in. Mrs. Smith married Lemuel Landers and went west in about 1724-'25."

From Mrs. C.'s statement it is quite probable that "John Smith," deceased, was a son of Jonas Smith, and occupied the original Smith estate. Of the widow Smith's children—

*Mercy* married Lemuel Landers, Jr.;

*Fanny* married, first, a Mr. Lane of Burlington, afterwards John Gustin of Burlington;

*Isaac* married Lucretia Elliott and for a while occupied the homestead;

*John* married Arabella Granger and lived in Ulster;

*Daniel Guthry* was also an early settler in the Sugar Creek region. His name is on the list of settlers, who came to Claverack within the years 1874-'85-'86; which was sworn to by Jacob Bowman. Jehiel Franklin and Ezra Rutty also depose to Guthry's settlement. He conveyed his claim to Abial Foster in 1791, and perhaps left the country, as his name is not found afterwards on our records.

*The Fosters*.—Isaac Foster, a native of Massachusetts, with two sons, Abial and Rufus, came into Claverack in

1785 as settlers under\* Hogaboom and Strong. They received a hundred acres each, but afterwards added to the original grant. The lots which they occupied lay between the river and Sugar Creek, and also extended across the latter stream and included what is now known as the Mills farm. These three pioneers found their way into the township by coming down the Susquehanna in a canoe. Mr. Foster built a log cabin on the public road leading to the ferry, near the railroad crossing, and at once began his struggles with the savagery of nature. At the time of his advent into the township, there were no roads, except Indian trails, and very few improvements. Clearing away the forest, preparing the land for raising crops, was the business of the first few years. Abial and Rufus were single young men, and resided with their father until after their marriage. Their father was a mechanic and gave attention to the manufacture of spinning-wheels, both little and big, and hence did not give his time as diligently as they in the improvement of their lands. Such was the character, the perseverance and the resolution of these men that the original tract taken up by them was mostly cleared by the family.

The struggles with pioneer life, with its loneliness, its poverty and wants of society, were all met with that fortitude, which has since characterized the progeny of Isaac Foster. And more it is due the name to say that the Fosters have ever been an important and influential family in the township.

Issac Foster was twice married, his first wife dying several

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\* They made Mr. Foster agent to procure settlers to come upon their land.

years before his removal from the east. His second wife was Abigail Franklin, a sister of Deacon Arnold Franklin of Sheshequin. She died June 11th, 1812, and is buried about fifteen rods northeast of Myer's mills, on a rise of ground where a barn is now standing. After this Mr. Foster lived with his two sons; and died at the residence of Abial, March 26, 1821, aged 84 years. His remains repose beside those of his wife, Abigail, the exact spot of his grave being unknown.

*Abial Foster* settled the farm now owned in part by E. H. Horton, Esq. He was considerably famous as a huntsman in the remote history of the town. In 1795 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Means, a sister of Wm. Means, Esq. He was a man of much enterprise, and at an early day built a saw-mill on the very site of "Myer's Mills," and a year or two subsequently the original grist-mill on Sugar Creek. Afterwards he became interested also in mills at the Pail Factory. For several years "Foster's mills" was the most important milling point for many miles. He did an extensive business, and after combining lumbering and milling with farming for a number of years, he quit the first two and became an earnest tiller of the soil. He died upon the farm, which he had taken up nearly a half century before, Aug. 10, 1841, aged 77 years. He was a man much esteemed by his neighbors and was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mrs. Foster was a kind and noble mother and a devoted Christian. She died Nov. 3, 1855, at the age of four score, and is buried beside her husband at "Riverside."

The children of Abial and Mary Foster were—

*Betsy*, who married Maj. Gerould, of Smithfield; *Samuel B.* occupied a part of the homestead and died unmarried; *Nancy* married Judson Gerould, of Smithfield; *Electa* married Wheelock Bingham, of North Towanda; *Polly* married Elijah H. Horton, who occupies the homestead; *Celinda* married Owen Campbell, of Burlington; *William H.* married Matilda Alloway and occupied a part of the homestead; *Jane* married Geo. Upright and died in Illinois.

*Rufus Foster* settled adjoining his brother, the farm now being divided into several lots, the railroad company owning most. The old plank house which he erected more than three-quarters of a century ago and occupied until the time of his death, is still used as a residence. Mr. Foster was one of the early members of the Presbyterian church of Wysox, and for many years one of its ruling elders. He was twice married, his first wife, "Phoebe," being a daughter of John Franklin, of Plymouth, who was killed at the battle of Wyoming. His second wife was "Sarah Lewis." Mr. Foster died Sept. 10, 1832, aged 65 years, and is buried at "Riverside," where his second\* wife is also.

The children of Rufus and Phoebe Foster were—*William*, who died when a young man, unmarried; *Rufus* married Aurilla Allis, of Orwell, and occupied a part of the homestead—he was the father of Hon. James Foster, a member of the State Legislature in 1877-78, and a useful and highly respected citizen of the township; *Elizabeth* married Maj.

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\*His first wife is undoubtedly buried in the original grounds, which were started in North Towanda near the mills.

Jared Hunt, of Canton; *Alfred* married Patience Franklin, of Sheshequin, and occupied a part of the homestead; *John* married a Miss Goddard, of Burlington, inherited a part of the old farm, but died at Canton. The fruits of the second marriage was a son, *Franklin L.*, who resides at Canton, never having married.

*Abraham Foster* did not come to the township with his father and brothers. He married Millie Strobe of Wysox, and for many years occupied the Smith place in North Towanda. This he sold to Benjamin Goodwin and removed to Canton, thence to the west, where he died. His children were—

*Elisha* who married Eleanor Carpenter of North Towanda, resided in Burlington; *Nancy* married Curtis Frink and lived at the Pail Factory; *William* removed from Burlington to the west. There were several other children who went west with the family.

*William Foster* also came to the township after his father and brothers. He married Betsy Myer (sister of Isaac) of Wysox, and lived on the place now in part occupied by J. Hosford. He sold to his son Myer and removed to Canton. Unto Wm. and Betsy Foster were born:—

*Harry*, who removed to Port Jarvis, thence to Patterson, N. J.; *Caroline*, married, first, Frank Reveland, and afterwards a Mr. Eaton of Canton, where she still resides; *Myer* married a Miss Wright, sold out and removed to Canton; *Betsy* married Rufus Mason and resides at Brooklyn, N. Y.; *Hiram*, when a young man, started out for himself; *Isaac* never married, lived at Waverly, N. Y.; *William*, when a

young man went to Brooklyn, N. Y., and succeeded in establishing an extensive livery business.

A daughter of Isaac Foster (1st) married a Mr. Diven of the State of New York.

*Joshua Bailey*, a native of Orange Co., N. Y., born in 1770, upon attaining his majority concluded to set out to seek his fortune. Accordingly, getting together what money he could, in the summer of 1791 he started for the Susquehanna, which he struck at Buttermilk Falls. Coming up the river to Wyalusing he found Mr. Bennett's family, whom he had known in Orange county, and remained with them until the following spring (1792), when he married a daughter, *Susan*, and moved to the place which he had picked out on Sugar Creek. In Mr. Bailey's search for land he passed through where Towanda village now is. Here, he says, "was a man living in a log cabin, a little south of the present Court House. He had about four acres cleared, which he offered to sell for forty dollars. But thinking the land poor, I concluded not to purchase."

When Mr. Bailey went to his farm he found about an acre, which the Indians had cleared in their way, by burning down the trees. Corn-stalks were yet standing in their hills on the flats, which the Indians had only previously left. He set to work and built a cabin out of poles, and covered it with bark. For a floor slabs, about four feet long, were split out of a big pine tree. When the cold weather set in, the cracks between the poles were mudded to make the cabin as comfortable as possible. Mr. Bailey's home in the wild woods was a desolate one.



"The gaunt wolf's howl and panther's scream  
 Made hideous each night,  
 And wives' and youthful maidens' hearts  
 Oft trembled with affright;  
 Until at length they learned to share  
 That courage, stern and true,  
 Which throbbed in every manly breast  
 When this our land was new."

His nearest neighbor, Amos Bennett, his brother-in-law, lived a mile down the creek, having moved in two years previously. Beginning his battle in earnest with the proud old monarchs of the forest, he succeeded in clearing about four acres the first year and planted the same to corn and potatoes. He had a good crop, but there was no mill for many miles where he could get his corn ground. So he resorted to the Indian's invention and made a "samp-mortar" for cracking corn, a very slow and laborious process.

The next year Mr. Bailey went back to Orange county and brought with him on his return a horse, a cow, a heifer and a yoke of oxen, having depended upon his brother-in-law the first year.

Wild beasts were numerous, and the hogs and sheep were confined in strong pens at night to be kept from destruction by the wolves, panthers and bears. It was not a strange occurrence to see a deer bounding along pursued by a wolf, in his mad determination to victimize the pretty creature of the wood. Deer were very plentiful, and their flesh was very acceptable for food, venison being about the only meat that could be afforded. Surrounded, as he was, by scores of savage beasts, Mr. Bailey stated that in all his hunting and trapping he was frightened but once.

One morning Mr. Parmenter came to his house and asked him if he had looked at his traps lately. He informed him that he had not, and the two daring woodsmen started out to make an examination. Mr. Bailey suggested taking the gun, but Mr. P., said he could despatch all the game with an axe, and the firearm was accordingly left behind.

In one of the traps they found a huge bear, and as per agreement Mr. P. proceeded to the spot to take his scalp. Bruin stood as tall as a man, and prepared for battle. The brave hunter aimed a blow at his head, but instead of hitting the mark, Bruin's strong paw knocked the axe out of his hands. A handspike was then cut and a new attack made, which resulted as unsuccessful as the first. Bruin had now succeeded in unfastening the chain and started for his adversaries on double quick. They were not a little frightened and made a hasty retreat. Luckily the claws on the chain soon fastened and entangled the bear again, when a third and successful charge was made, and Bruin killed. The bear weighed over 400 pounds.

Mr. Bailey procured some apple trees of Mr. Rutty and started an orchard. One row he named after the twelve Apostles. "Judas" was cut down about twelve years ago, and measured thirty-seven inches across the stump, Its fruit is said to have verified the name.

Mr. Bailey spent his life upon the farm which he hewed out of the wilderness, and his remains repose in the soil which he cleared. He died Feb. 14, 1861, at the advanced age of almost 92 years. His wife lies beside him in the family burial ground. Thomas and Newton Bailey, grand-

sons, now occupy the place. The children of Joshua and Susan Bailey were:—

*Pruda*, (born May 30th, 1795) who married Stephen Avery, moved to Ohio;

*Joshua, Jr.*, (born Dec. 4, 1796), who married Polly Gregg, lived on the homestead\*, and farmed and lumbered;

*Nehemiah*, (born Jan. 2, 1797) who married Lydia Brague, moved west;

*Nathaniel*, (born Feb. 5, 1801) who married Eleanor Carpenter, resided in the township;

*Anna*, (born Aug. 20, 1802) who married Andrew C. Gregg, resided in the township;

*Phæbe*, (born April 1, 1804) who married Austin Rundell, resided in Burlington;

*Susan*, (born Feb. 20, 1806) who married Wm. McNeal, lived in the township;

*Polly*, (born Sept. 16th, 1807) who married Harry Coolbaugh of, Asylum;

*Mehitable*, (born May 7th, 1809) who married Gordon Goff, moved to Tioga county, Pa.;

*John* (born Feb. 26, 1812) who married Abigail Slater; died in his country's service;

*Clara*, (twin of John) who married Alfred Strobe, of Rome township;

*Enos*, (born Dec. 26, 1814) who married, first, Sabra Wilcox, second, Amy Strobe;

*Jeremiah*, (born Nov. 19, 1817) who married Electa Bald-

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\* His father at an early day had built a saw mill on Bailey Run.

win, succeeded to the homestead. Of this family Clara, Enos; and Jeremiah only are living.

*Amos Bennett* emigrated with his father's family (*Amos Bennett, Sr.*) from Orange county, N. Y., to Wyalusing in about 1783. In 1790 he moved to Sugar Creek and settled the place now in part owned and occupied by his grandson, John Bennett. Mr. Bennett cleared a considerable part of his farm and died thereon, Feb. 10, 1839, at the age of 73 years. His remains are deposited in "Union Bluff" Cemetery. The children of Amos and Amy Wilcox-Bennett were: Amos, George, Thomas, Enos, Chester, Polly, Nathaniel and Hannah.

*Nathan* succeeded to the homestead, where he died; *Polly* married Enoch Luther of Burlington; *Hannah* married, first, Wm. Lee, second, Amos Coon; *Enos* resided in Burlington; *Amos* moved to Canton, where he died; *Thomas* also resided in Canton; *Chester* remained in North Towanda.

*Martin Stratton*, a millwright and carpenter (born near Hartford, Conn.), in about the year 1794, with a small kit of tools upon his back, set out to make his fortune in the West. Fate brought him into Bradford county. He took up quarters with Ezra Rutty, remained for about a year, then married his daughter, *Rebecca*. During this time it is probable that he built the "old Rutty mansion" and the "Foster house." In about 1797 he went up into West Burlington and built a grist-mill for the Goddards, who gave him employment for four or five years, when he again returned to North Towanda with his family. He bought an improvement of Amos Bennett at the Pail Factory in about 1805,

one Seely having made the original possession, and occupied the same until the time of his death. Having discovered a good site for a mill on Sugar Creek, a few rods from his house, Mr. Stratton in company with Cephas Stratton and Jonathan Holcomb, erected a grist-mill\*, with a single run of stone, just back of where Mr. Barnes's saw-mill now is. A considerable business was done for several years. In about 1809-10 a saw-mill was built, and its motive power furnished from the same dam. Mr. Stratton, however, gave more especial attention to the clearing and improvement of his farm, in which struggles his wife and eldest children gave most valuable assistance. Mrs. S. not only did her housework, but she and her daughters would assist her husband in picking and burning brush, and so anxious were they to get a start that they would often continue this work until late at night. Like the other pioneers, Mr. Stratton made the best of the primitive mode of life and succeeded in earning a comfortable home, where he died Nov. 3, 1821, aged 63 years. Mrs. Stratton's death occurred subsequently, and both are buried at "Riverside." Martin, or "Capt. Stratton," as he was familiarly called, was a very kind-hearted gentleman and was much respected by his neighbors. He left the following children:

*Hannah* married Anson Simons of Ulster, and removed to Indiana; *Betsy* married John Bloom of Burlington; *Mary* married Geo. W. Simons, and also removed to Indiana; *Hiram* married Olive Steward, occupied the home-

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\*Good authority states that the mill was only built by Mr. Stratton and was owned by Abial Foster. Nowhere on the records can we find a mill assessed to Martin Stratton.

stead for a few years, thence removed to Ohio, and finally to Missouri, where he died; *Samuel*, (born Feb. 19, 1808) married Euphrasia Foster, and still occupies a part of the homestead; *Esther* married Loren Kingsbury, of Sheshequin; *Caroline* married John Muncy and removed to Indiana with her husband; *Martha*, (born June 18, 1806) married Thomas Hawkins, and resides in Towanda.

*Timothy*, *Cephas*, and *Surager Straton*, brothers of Martin, followed him from the East after a year or two. *Timothy* lived in the township for a few years then emigrated to Ohio; *Cephas* removed to Ulster township, thence to Ohio; *Surager* was a cooper, worked at his trade here a short time then went west also.

*Ozias Bingham*, a soldier of the Revolution and native of Connecticut, emigrated from Vermont to North Towanda in about 1795-96\*. A brother, Chester, was an early settler and land owner under Connecticut title in Ulster, and was no doubt the means of Mr. Bingham's coming to the county.

In the spring of 1777 Mr. Bingham received a commission from the Quartermaster-General to raise a company of teamsters for the Continental army, with a captain's pay and rations. He joined the army at Peekskill, N. Y., and was annexed with his company to the brigade commanded by Maj.-Gen. Alexander McDougal. He was then marched to White Marsh in Pennsylvania, where he joined Washington's army on the 2d of October. On the 4th of October he participated in the battle of Germantown. He continued in the

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\*He married Martha Rutty after coming to the township, and their first child was born in 1797. He obtained a pension before his death.

artillery department at Valley Forge until May, 1778, when he was sent into New England to forward to headquarters the artillery which had been taken from Gen. Burgoyne. Having delivered the artillery at White Plains, he obtained a leave of absence on account of sickness and returned to his home in Connecticut. His sickness continued until March, 1779, when he received a dismissal from service. Mr. Bingham had been married before the war and had a family of four or five children. His wife having died, he left his children in the East and set out to find his brother in the new country of the West, who was rich under Connecticut titles. Whether he was captivated by the charms of "Miss Martha," or the new country with its flattering prospects, we are unable to state. However, he married and made Bradford county his home, and his remains repose in her historic soil. After his marriage he moved upon a piece of land now occupied by the "Widow Mauger." He was a skin-dresser by trade, and worked at that business in connection with the improvement of his land. His sons, upon becoming young men, opened a little store at his house and received peltry in exchange for goods. They afterwards opened a store in Towanda and carried on lumbering in connection.

The last years of his life Mr. Bingham spent with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Coolbaugh, in Wysox. His death occurred Feb. 9th, 1845, in the 95th year of his age, and his wife, "Martha Rutty's," Nov. 16, 1826, at the age of 62 years. They are buried at "Riverside."

The children of Ozias and Martha Bingham were John W. and George K.

*John W.*, married Electa Foster, and remained upon the homestead, where he died in 1830.

*George K.*, married Hannah Mills, and was associated with his brother in business. He was drowned in running a raft over Shamokin dam in 1831. His widow (Mrs. Coolbaugh) is yet living at the advanced age of a little more than eighty years. She is a lady of endearing qualities, and is possessed of a most remarkable physique and memory. With her sunny disposition she looks upon the bright side of life, and lives surrounded by grand-children and great-grand-children.

*The Carpenter Family.*—Elisha Carpenter was an early settler on the place adjoining Mr. Bingham; the Mauger boys now occupy the farm. Mr. Carpenter died before the year 1812, (as the assessment for that year was made to his widow, "Cynthia,") and is buried upon the place. Mrs. Carpenter was distantly related to Mrs. Edward Mills, *nee* Losina Stewart. *Garner* and *Elisha* Carpenter (sons) succeeded to the estate. Elisha finally sold out his interest and went West. The girls were *Tamer*, Mrs. Uriel Holbert; *Elinor*, Mrs. Nathaniel Bailey; *Hannah*, Mrs. Elisha Foster; *Mahala*, Mrs. Iddo Ames; *Jane*, Mrs. John Packard; *Rebecca*, Mrs. Samuel Green; *Cynthia*, Mrs. Benjamin Chaapel. Mrs. Carpenter married a second time.

*Edward Mills* came to Bradford county in 1808. When he was an infant only three weeks old his father was brutally murdered at Fort Griswold, a place that will long be remembered for the fiendish malignity of the British in Revolutionary times. While the gore of "the fathers" was being



spilled Mrs. Mills could distinctly hear the shouts of the "red-coated demons" as they went on with their barbarous work amid the cries of the unfortunates. The subject of this notice was born at Branford, Conn., Aug. 12, 1786. While he was yet a child his mother again married (a Mr. Smith) and removed to the State of New York, on the Delaware. Here Mr. Mills grew to manhood and married Miss Losina Stewart. Being desirous of having a home of his own, and knowing of the opportunities that were offered in the new country of the West, he started for Pennsylvania with his family in the spring of 1808. Arriving at Ulster, for the first year he worked the Capt. Cash farm, and in the year following moved to Sugar Creek, and rented the "Smith place," where he remained until 1814. Having purchased a possession of Stephen Wilcox, he moved thereon, and went to work in a most diligent manner in clearing up his farm and cultivating the soil. He remained upon his farm until his children had grown to manhood and womanhood. When they began to leave the paternal roof and settle in other sections of the country, the father and mother being somewhat discontented removed to Ohio, where Mrs. Mills died, Oct. 29, 1847. After this sad event Mr. Mills removed to Illinois, where he spent his last days among his children and grand-children. He died at Winnebago, July 5, 1869. Mr. Mills was a consistent and exemplary member of the M. E. Church, and for some years was the only member of that denomination in the neighborhood. In the days of early Methodism in the county his house was the preaching place and the home of the itinerant. Mr. Mills was a prac-

tical common-sense utilitarian, and a gentleman much esteemed. The children of Edward Mills and Losina Stewart (born April 1, 1785) are :

*Stephen A.*, (born May 30, 1804,) married Amanda Fanning of Springfield, and resides upon the farm which he has owned and occupied for sixty years. His business has been somewhat varied in lumbering, farming and hotel-keeping. The stone house which he occupies was originally opened as a hotel, and continued as such for a number of years. Mr. Mills is yet 'a very active and clear-minded gentleman.

*Hannah S.*, (born May 20, 1805,) married first, George K. Bingham, and afterwards Cornelius Coolbaugh of Wysox, both of whom she survives. *9. Sept. 9 - 1899*

*Esther*, (born Feb. 15, 1807,) married Erastus Pratt of Pike, moved West and is living with a second husband in Missouri.

*Silas*, (born Sept. 12, 1808,) married Mary E. Allis of Orwell, and occupies the homestead.

*Freeman*, married Minerva Grace of Springfield, emigrated to Illinois and subsequently to California, where he was honored with high office, and was prospering finely, when his career was suddenly brought to an end by the kick of a horse.

*Dr. Edward*, (born March 21, 1813,) married Patience Rutty, of North Towanda, studied medicine and located in Ulster where he was in continuous practice for almost half a century. He is yet living in Ulster.

*Garner C.*, (born March 17, 1817,) went to Illinois when a

young man, where he still resides, and is a prominent and influential citizen.

*Losina*, (born Oct. 26, 1819,) went to Ohio with her parents, married there and subsequently moved to Missouri, where she still resides.

*Stephen Wilcox* was a resident of North Towanda in 1800. He began on the place now owned and occupied by Silas Mills. He sold out and left with his family, about 1815. His wife was a Campbell, of Burlington. *Silas Andress* was an early settler on the same farm.

*Nathan Coon* was born at Petersburg, Rensselaer Co., N. Y., July 3d, 1770, and married Bridget Tift (widow of Robert Tift, a soldier of the Revolution). Mrs. Coon's maiden name was Bailey, and her birthplace was Richmond, R. I. Both her father and grandfather Bailey served in the patriot army, the latter being a Major. At the age of about sixteen years she married Robert Tift, who moved to Stephenstown, N. Y., and there remained until his death. In 1799 or 1800 she married Nathan Coon, who removed to Unadilla, N. Y., thence in the fall of 1806, or the spring of 1807, to Sugar Creek. He purchased a possession of one Seely and settled thereon—the farm still being in the occupancy of the Coon family. Mr. Coon was familiarly known as "Capt. Coon," a title which he gained by having been captain of militia. In pioneer times necessity demanded that every man know how to use the rifle. Mr. Coon was not the exception and became somewhat famous as a woodsman. He followed farming and lumbering till 1836, when he went to Illinois, where he died Dec. 6, 1859.

The children of Nathan and Bridget Coon were—

*Nathan*, (born Feb. 26, 1803,) married Anna Rutty, occupied the homestead, where he died in 1847.

*Mary Ann*, (born Apr. 14, 1810,) married Asa Miller and removed to Illinois, where she died in 1859.

*Anaziah*, (born Sept. 28, 1812,) never married; died in 1843.

*Amos B.*, (born Feb. 12, 1815,) went to Illinois in 1835, and is still a resident at Marengo. He followed surveying, then studied law and has been a practitioner since 1845. He served two terms as State's attorney, was Provost Marshal during the war, Register in Bankruptcy, etc. He was his mother's twenty-first child. The others not herein named died young.

The children of Robert and Bridget Tifft were—Abby, Reuben, Judith and Elizabeth. *Abby* married John Simpkins and died in Tioga county, Pa. *Elizabeth* married Thos. Bennett.

Bridget Coon was born June 22, 1768, and died in August, 1847, at Canton, Pa., where she is buried. Nathan Coon was a brother of Timothy Coon, an early settler in Albany.

*William Pepper* moved up Sugar Creek and settled the Robt. Keene place, before 1812. He had a large family of boys and girls. From Sugar Creek he moved to Canton.

*Jonathan Holcomb* bought a possession of Mr. Bennett, perhaps not far from 1805. He sold to Pepper and went West.

*Samuel Everet* had a large family and lived across the creek on the Herda estate for a few years.

*Stephen Horton*, father of E. H. Horton, also lived at the Pail Factory for a while. He also resided in other parts of the township, and engaged in farming and lumbering. He was of the Sheshequin family of Hortons.

*Amasa Withey*, assessed in 1812 as a "Whitesmith," married the widow Carpenter, and lived with her upon the Carpenter place, where he died. He was rather, however, a gunsmith.

*Lemuel Landers* lived down on the flats, now included in the farm of Charles Biles. In 1812 he was assessed with 50 acres of improved land and 50 acres unimproved. Hence it is obvious that he must have been a resident of the township some years before that date.

*Mr. Beardsley* is remembered as having lived on the bank of the river, in a log house opposite the island known as "Beardsley's Island."

*Seneca Simmons* resided upon the place now occupied by Samuel Hawkins and others. He had a large family of children. After several years he emigrated to Illinois.

*Mr. Marks* had a possession on Hemlock Run. His business was that of a weaver, and he met the wants of the neighborhood in his art.

*James Mauger*, (Major) a Frenchman, moved to the place now owned by John Divine in 1826. Both he and his wife died upon the farm, his son William afterwards occupying the place.

*Roderick Granger*, a native of Suffield, Conn., having heard such flattering descriptions of the Susquehanna Valley from his father and brother, who had already settled there, was

induced to come on to Ulster to examine the country. Being pleased he returned for his family, which he brought into the county in 1809. He settled in Ulster township and there remained for about sixteen years, then lived in Wysox for three years more, until 1828, when he moved to North Towanda and purchased the farm since owned by his sons, Horace (deceased) and Roderick. When Mr. Granger moved to his farm only a garden spot had been cleared, but by unremitting toil the forests were made to bow, and soon neat and fruitful fields succeeded. Mr. Granger died Nov. 7, 1848, aged 69 years, while returning from election after voting for General Taylor for President. His wife, "Almeda Dunlap," died Dec. 7, 1868, aged 83 years, 5 months and 12 days. They are buried at "Riverside." Their children were—*Sophia*, Mrs. Artemas King; *Harriet*, Mrs. Jos. Menardi; *Arabel*, Mrs. John Smith; *Horace*, married Matilda Vandyke, and occupied a part of the homestead; *Adelia* died a young lady, unmarried; *Roderick*, married Lois Rutty and occupies a part of the homestead; *Lucinda*, Mrs. Washington Landrus; *Elijah*, married Laura Luther and resides in the township; *John*, married Elizabeth Bennett and resides in Cameron Co., Pa.

*Judson Gerould* occupied the John Lane place for a time, then moved to Smithfield.

*Isaac Myer*, who purchased the Foster mills, was a wide-awake, enterprising business man, and did very much for the improvement of North Towanda. Upon retiring from business he built a residence in Towanda village, where he lived

until the time of his demise. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1835-36.

*Stephen Powell*, a brother of Joseph C., came to North Towanda and purchased the Dr. Baldwin place about the same time that his brother came to Towanda. He subsequently moved West.

*Ebenezer P. Clark* was assessed in Towanda in 1812. He lived near Myer's mills and afterwards in Towanda, thence moved down the river opposite Wyalusing.

#### EARLY SETTLERS OF THE TOWANDA HILLS.

*William Finch*, a native of Connecticut, and a Revolutionary soldier was the first settler on what is known as the "Towanda Hills." During the war for American Independence he was captured and taken a prisoner to Montreal. With the aid of his jack-knife he dug his way out of the prison, and finding a canoe near by, he succeeded in making his escape to the American shore. He kept secreted during the day and traveled by night, without provisions. Finally he could not endure an aching stomach any longer, and coming to a house, where he saw no men around, he ventured in. His hostess proved to be a French lady, who discerning his wants, gave him a loaf of rye bread. Upon this, and the leeks which he found in the woods, he subsisted several days. His guide through the wilderness was the sun and the moss on the trees. After much suffering he finally reached the American army in safety, and served until the war closed. He married and settled for a short time at Danbury, thence moved to Unadilla, N. Y.,

whence he found his way into Towanda. Digging a canoe out of a large pine log, he took his family, with such effects as he possessed, on board, and floated down the Susquehanna in quest of "those cheap lands that could be had for the mere occupancy." He landed at Bowman's eddy in about 1798, built a cabin on Welles' flats and raised a crop of corn. On account of the annual overflows, and thinking that the heavy timbers on the hills would become very valuable, he decided to pick out a farm on higher ground. Accordingly he built a log cabin on the place of now Wm. Welch, moved in, and began his battle with the wild woods. His home in the wilderness was on the usual plan of architecture in pioneer times. There was not a nail in the whole structure. It was floored with slabs of split pine, dressed down as nearly even as possible, and covered with the usual cob-roof. The two doors were opposite, so that a horse could be employed to draw in logs for the huge fireplace. A greased cloth was stretched across an opening left in the logs for a window. This quaint dwelling was supplied with furniture of Mr. Finch's own manufacture. The nearest mill of any importance being Wilkes-Barre, he hollowed a white-pine stump, and with the aid of a spring-pole and stone-pestle attached, cracked his corn for bread, etc. As would many of the early settlers, as soon as Mr. Finch had made an opening he planted apple and other seeds and started a nursery. It was only a few years till he had fruit of all kinds in abundance. Trees of his original orchard are yet standing on the place and bear fruit.

Mr. Finch's usual mode of plowing was by having a boy



ride a horse hitched in advance of a yoke of oxen. Mr. Davidson, who was reared in his grandfather's family, was generally his plow-boy. He says: "One day as I was mounted on the horse, grandpa holding the plow, I heard a disturbance among the cattle and told grandpa I thought a wolf was killing one of the yearlings. We ran to the spot, and grandpa seized the large grey wolf, that was snapping and fighting the 'critter,' by the hind-legs, and soon thrashed the life out of him." Mr. Finch was a very strong man and it is said of him that he could take a barrel of cider upon his knee and drink out of the bung-hole. At the age of seventy years, it is claimed that he could take a barrel of cider by the chimes and put it in his cart. The woods were filled with wild beasts, and Mr. Finch was required to build strong pens to confine his stock at night to keep it from destruction. Necessity demanded the practice of the utmost economy; hence Mr. Finch made his own liquids, and tanned both the leather which he manufactured into shoes for the family and buckskin trousers for himself. Being a tailor by trade, he made the cloth into garments, which Mrs. Finch had spun and wove. Mr. Finch's diligence was rewarded by plenty, and having paid for his farm, his closing days were spent in "honest comfort." He was a gentleman of religious convictions, and a devoted Methodist. He died at the age of 86 years and is buried at Cole's. His wife, "Mary Huxley," died when past eighty years of age and is buried at the same place.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Finch were born—

*Martha* ("Patty"), who married, first, Thomas Green and afterwards Lary Dunmore.

*William* and *Benjamin* both died when young men.

*Thankful*, married Richard Davidson, of Towanda, had one son, Benjamin, and died in 1807.

*Binona*, inherited the homestead and died in Ohio, while on a visit. When a young man of about nineteen years he met with a serious misfortune. On "Cold Friday," Jan. 19, 1810, he had started for Fowler's to mill with his ox-cart. When going down the dug-way the cart tipped over on him, and being unable to free himself, his feet, which were exposed, were so frozen that the amputation of both was necessary.

*Andrew Gregg*, born in Ireland May 16, 1763, when thirteen years of age emigrated to America with his father's family. Mr. Gregg, the elder, settled at Danville, Pa., whence Andrew joined Sullivan's expedition and came up the valley. After the war he married Nancy Santee, of Luzerne county, and settled in Ulster, where he lived for a short time only, then moved to North Towanda not far from the year 1800. About seven years later he made a possession on the place now owned by his grandson, Francis Gregg, and there spent the residue of his life in diligent toil. He was a real hero in the wild-woods, and bore his part faithfully and well. His house stood on the line of the old State Road. He died April 25, 1846, and is buried upon the place, as is his wife, who died May 17, 1838, aged 74 years.

The children of Andrew and Nancy Gregg were—*Esther*,

who married, first, a Mr. Fanning, second, Thomas Brown; *Peggie*, married Squire Watts; *Polly*, married Joshua Bailey; *Katie*, died when a young lady; *Susan*, married Delanson Campbell; *William*, married Mary Ballard and resided in the township; *Andrew C.*, married Anna Bailey and succeeded to the homestead where he died in 1865, and his wife in 1872, the former aged 65 years and the latter 76 years.

*Williston West* was a settler on the Harry Decker place as early as 1812. He cleared up a considerable part of the farm. For his second wife he married Miss Susan, daughter of Benjamin Bosworth. He died very suddenly at the age of about 80 years, and was buried at Cole's. The children resulting from his second marriage were William, Andrew, Harrison, Lorenzo, and Amy.

The widow married Jno. Haithorn, an Englishman. Amy and Andrew went West with the Mormons.

*Benjamin Bosworth*, a soldier of the Revolution, and hatter by trade, came in from Boston and settled (about 1814) the place adjoining Mr. West's, the same now being owned in part by Willis Fisher. He died Dec. 27, 1847, in the 94th year of his age, and is buried at Cole's with a number of his brave compeers.

*Thomas Cox* located on the place now occupied by Martin Bowen. He was something of a hunter. His children were—Hiram, Joanna, John, Nancy, Polly, Hannah, Delight, Wellington and Usual M. Mr. Cox died in 1841, aged almost 59 years, and his wife, "Susannah," in 1856, at a little more than 70 years.

*Daniel Avery*, a carpenter, lived on the place now owned

by Michael Deslane. His son, Stephen, who belonged to the comical order, married Prudie Bailey; a daughter, Polly, married Williston West, Jr. The Averys went West.

*Edsall Carr*, a settler in Monroe as early as 1809, moved to the place now occupied by John Bowman. He went West in 1821. His children were—Asenath, Cynthia, and John. The first named married Francis French.

*Frederick Fisher*, or "Maj. Fisher," as he was familiarly called, moved to the Towanda Hills in about 1827. He was a man of ability, and held prominent offices in the township. He was an active politician, a singing-master, and Major of militia. At the husking-bees and political gatherings, his voice was always heard. For a short time he was engaged in the mercantile business with John Wilson, at Monroeton. His son, Wallace, occupies a part of the homestead. Mr. Fisher died May 14, 1857, aged 60 years, 6 months and 7 days, and his wife, "Dolly Cole," May 16, 1865, aged 66 years and 24 days. Their children were—John, George, Marvin, Willis, Laura (Mrs. Mace), — (Mrs. Lyon).

*Henry Mace* came from Luzerne county with his family in 1830. His son Henry H. (Hicks) became a very successful business man and left at his death in 1882, it is stated, a property estimated at one hundred thousand dollars. His sons succeed to his estate. Mr. Mace the senior lived to be 92 years of age. "At eighty he could take the floor and dance like a poppet." A daughter, the wife of Benjamin Davidson, is still living in the township.

*John Jennings* settled the place which H. H. Mace purchased.

*William Smith* lived for a few years on the place of now Silas Shiner. *Jas. Potter* occupied the place after Smith.

*Daniel Gilbert*, as already stated, moved to the Carr place.

*John Crannmer* was one of the first hill settlers. He was a son of Samuel Crannmer, one of the pioneers into Monroe. He owned the place now occupied by Enoch Luther. Mr. Crannmer was an upright man, and an obliging neighbor. He had a large and respectable family. Four sons gallantly donned the blue, and one nobly gave his life to his country while fighting under the Stars and Stripes.

*William McGill*, a native of Ireland and stone-mason by trade, "to better his fortunes," in about the year 1795 bade farewell to Hibernia forever, and set sail for "the land of the free." For awhile he labored near Reading. In about 1802-3, he came to Bradford county and found employment with Jacob Bowman; and, indeed, the relations with the family became so friendly that the charms of Miss "Polly" (Mary) won his heart and ultimately terminated in matrimony. After his marriage he lived on the Creek for a few years, then in 1823 moved to the hills back of Towanda, where he ever after resided. Philander Ward occupies a part of the farm which he settled and improved. Mr. McGill was a man highly respected and was familiarly known as "Uncle Billy." He enlisted in the war of 1812, but peace being declared soon after, he returned after a month's absence.

The light of his earthly existence went out forever, Sept. 15, 1855, at the age of 77 years, 4 months and 5 days. His wife had preceded him to the grave six years.

The children of William and Mary McGill were—

*Mary*, who married Martin Moore, of Rome; *Eliza*, married Benjamin Smith, of Sheshequin; *Dennis*, married Susan Santee and occupied a part of the homestead; *William*, married, first, Rachel Santee, and second, a Miss DuBoise; he lived in Towanda township for some years thence moved to Illinois, where he died; *Jacob* married Eliza Thomas, was a shoemaker, and resided in Monroe; *James* married Elizabeth Overpeck and resided in the township; *Murinda* married, first, Edward Patterson, and afterwards, John Gorham, of Le Raysville; *Hiram, W.*, married Mrs. Emily Bowman, *nee* Emily Sweet, and resides in Towanda village; *Adelia* married Byron Griffith of Susquehanna county, Pa.; *Rebecca* married Mallory Wolfe, of Luzerne county, Pa.

*Ebenezer Herrick*, a blacksmith, the *Schraders*, John, Frederick and Harmon, the *Deckers* and others were among the second lot of settlers on the hill.

*Benjamin Davidson* (born Jan. 31, 1807) is the oldest native resident of the Towanda hills, having been a resident ever since his birth. His life has been one of toil, and though he has now almost reached four-score years, he says "he can't remember the time when he could'n't take a meal." His occupation has been that of a lumberman and farmer, and with all his misfortunes, he has laid by an abundance for the comforts of old age. Mr. Davidson is a bright and interesting gentleman, a kind and obliging neighbor, and a citizen of high standing in the township. In 1831 he was united in marriage with Miss Emily Mace,

daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Mace. The fruits of this union are :

William, George, Henry M., Lucy A., (Mrs. C. H. Jennings) and Ruba E., (Mrs. M. Bailey). William is a gentleman of affluence, and has a very attractive residence at Boliver, N. Y.

#### EARLY SETTLERS OF TOWANDA BOROUGH

*William Means*, the first permanent settler within the present limits of the borough of Towanda, was of Scotch-Irish descent. He was a son of Samuel Means, who was a resident of Northumberland county, Pa., at the breaking out of the Revolutionary war. Mr. Means and his oldest son fought in the patriot army. The former was wounded, and before surgical aid could be procured, died from the effusion of blood; the son never returned, and is supposed to have been killed at the battle of Wyoming. The family remained in Northumberland county until tidings came to the mother of the approach of the Indians, when she took her children, one an infant only six weeks old, and, in a canoe, made her escape down the river. They had scarcely embarked when she saw her home in flames, but, fortunately, the savages did not pursue her. The family soon after came back to the homestead, but the mother survived her return only a short time, and her children were scattered among different families. The mother's maiden name was Clark. It is stated that "when Rudolph Fox fled with his family down the river, from the approach of the Indians, they fell in with Samuel Means' family, and through them William Means learned of the country about Towanda. Soon after

the war he came up to examine the land, and being pleased with the country, settled here." Another says: "Mr. Means commenced life as a boatman\* on the Susquehanna. In this manner he became acquainted with Elizabeth Fox, whom he wedded in 1788,† and thus gained a good knowledge of the country. When married, by their industry and economy, they were soon enabled to purchase a boat of their own. In 1794 the French people settled at Asylum. Mr. Means made a contract to convey them, with their families, from Harrisburg to their new settlements, to receive five dollars a day for himself, and two dollars a day for each hand. A day was fixed upon for leaving Harrisburg, and he arrived there at the time appointed and waited for several weeks without their arrival. He then proceeded to the city of Philadelphia, and found them preparing to start, but not yet ready. They advanced him a sum of money which enabled him to purchase a small stock of goods, which were conveyed with their baggage gratis to Harrisburg. On arriving there, the French people concluded to have a house built upon the boat. This he finally sold to them, and became the overseer in erecting the house upon it. On arriving at Asylum he found due him, in the aggre-

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\* In early years before the lines of improvement were even projected, the river was navigated by Durham boats, which carried freight along the length of the Susquehanna. By this tedious and toilsome process provisions and goods were brought for the convenience of the settlers. For two years or more Mr. Means was engaged in the transportation of goods for Judge Hollenback between Wilkes-Barre and Athens. After he became able to purchase a boat of his own, Mrs. Means frequently joined him in his trips, and assisted in poling the loaded boat up the river.

† Having located "a year or two before his marriage," would place his advent into the county in 1786-'87.



gate, over one thousand dollars, besides the advance to buy goods. This sum, with his merchandise and business at home, laid the foundation, with subsequent industry and economy for the large estate which he accumulated. Mr. Means settled\* on the bank of the river directly opposite where the dam was built, and for many years kept a ferry and distillery† at that place. He continued to live in the log house until 1804, when he moved into the *Red Tavern*, which had been erected the year before but not wholly completed. However, before this he was an inn-keeper, being licensed a "taverner" at the August Sessions, 1797, of the Luzerne County Court. The Red Tavern (so called from its being painted red) was a two-story framed building, and stood on the corner of Franklin and Main streets, on the same lot as now occupied by the Eureka buildings. The store was kept in the old log house until 1811, when it was moved into the new house, an addition having been built. This was *the first store*, and also *the first tavern* kept in Towanda village. Upon the erection of the county in 1812, "the Red Tavern" was established as the place of holding courts and so continued till the old court house was built and occupied (Jan., 1816). The court-room was on the second floor, and the prisoners kept in side rooms adjoining, during trial, the jail (log) then being located at Monroeton.

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\* His log house stood directly opposite where the Eureka buildings now are, on the lower side of Main street.

† The distillery stood almost directly east of the Red Tavern by a spring on the opposite side of the street, and south of the road leading to the ferry. North of the log house was the tavern stable; and west of the street was a large framed barn after the Dutch fashion.

In 1816\* Mr. Means built his commodious (then of the most stylish plan of architecture) residence, yet standing on the corner of Main and Bridge streets, and there lived until the time of his demise. About the same time he erected a small building (about 18x20 feet) on the corner of Main and Bridge streets, on the same lot with and south of his house and occupied it as a store, till he went out of business, his son, William, keeping the hotel for a series of years after 1816. Mr. Means was an extensive land holder. He owned about 600 acres adjoining on the south by the "Fox-chase farm," and extending northward to about where Decker Bros. store now is. Besides he owned several hundred acres at Greenwood, and other points. He lumbered extensively and shipped his lumber in rafts down the Susquehanna. In 1809 he built a saw-mill at Van Gorder's on Towanda Creek, and afterwards a second one at Greenwood. In addition to his lumbering business he bought grain and shipped it in ark-loads to the lower counties. After the improvement of the public highways, he would load an old fashioned "Dutch four-horse wagon," with peltry, go to Philadelphia, and return with a load of goods. It required nearly six weeks to make the trip. The roads were very rough, and beset with dangers. To carry on so much business and so successfully demonstrates that Mr. Means was a man of untiring energy, endowed with a money-making faculty. He was a man of enterprise, and it was largely through his influence that the county seat was

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\* This building was begun in the Fall of 1815, but not finished until 1816. Peter Egner, the designer and builder of the old court house, was the architect.

located at Towanda, which for a short time was called in his honor "Meansville," also "Williamston." By means of his ferry, which was directly opposite the Red Tavern, communication was opened with the east side of the river and the place thus greatly benefitted. He was the first magistrate of the town (commissioned Dec. 20, 1800) and was generally known as "Esquire Means." In 1812, he was also appointed the first postmaster of Towanda village. He was appointed County Treasurer in 1815, and served one term. Mr. Means brought his sisters\* into the county, one after another, and gave them a home in his family. The life of this active man was closed Oct. 3, 1829, at the age of 64 years. His body is entombed in the family burial ground on Second street.

Mrs. Means, or "Grandma Means" as she was familiarly called, survived her husband many years. Much has already been said of this noble character, but before we shall have finally passed her deeds and virtues by, a few more lines will not, perhaps, detract from the value of our sketch. After peace had been declared her relations with the Indians were most friendly. She treated them very kindly, and as tokens of their esteem they were wont to make her gifts of little baskets, and other trinkets. Once, before her marriage, by her timely interposition, she saved the life of Mr. Means. At the house of Mr. Fox he, unfortunately, seriously offended an Indian. The Red man raised his tomahawk and was in the act of cutting him down, when Eliza-

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\* *Betsy Means* married Adam Conley; *Ellen Means* married a Mr. Diven, of New York; *Jane Means* married Francis Watts; *Polly Means* married Abial Foster; *Nancy Means* married Dr. Adonijah Warner.

beth stepped in between them, and appealed to the Indian to spare the white man, as "he was to be her husband." Not forgetting her kindness—the wish was granted. Were it not that this scene comes in a little too late, it would furnish the key to a first-class romance. As an appreciation of the many kindnesses which she had received from the Indians, at her death she bequeathed \$100 to be used in spreading the light of the gospel among them. "Grandma Means" had a big heart, and a number of boys, whose locks are now silvered, will remember till the grave shall rest them, how Christmas was made pleasant at "Grandma Means's." On that day she would array herself in her buckskin gown, with a high cap, to resemble Santa Claus, I suppose, and the small boys of the village, being assembled, whom she had previously invited, she began her sport. Taking the long-handled shovel, she would fill it with pennies, and after having held it over the fire-place until the pieces were sufficiently warmed to be uncomfortable in one's fingers, she would scatter them over the floor, it being understood that each boy could have what he picked up. The scrambling was the enjoyment to her, and so amusing was the exercise that she would laugh tears in her eyes. The recreation being over, the doughnuts and other delicacies, suited to a boy's Christmas appetite, were brought on, and disposed of according to his idea of the preserving art. After "Grandma" and the little folks had enjoyed themselves to their heart's content, with many kind words they parted till the next Christmas. Mrs. Means was an ardent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and when

funds were being raised for the M. E. Church edifice at Towanda, she was the most liberal subscriber. Her last days were spent in peace and affluence, but it can never be said of her that she was vain or ostentatious. The children of William and Elizabeth Means were William, John, Samuel, Celinda, Lucinda, and Eliza—other children died young.

*William Means, Jr.*, married, first, Eunice Hewett, (sister of Gurdon Hewett,) and afterwards Lydia Mathewson, of Athens. He succeeded to a part of the patrimonial estate, and for several years kept the "Red Tavern." He was the father of Col. John F. Means, of whom a biographical notice is given in another part of this work.

*John Means* married Harriet Ballard of Burlington, lived at Towanda and followed farming. Their children are *Samuel*, a resident of Philadelphia, and *William*, who is living in New Jersey.

*Samuel Means* died when a young man.

*Celinda Means* married Gurdon Hewett.

*Eliza Means* married Nathaniel N. Betts.

The first wife of William Means, Jr., is buried at Cole's beside her parents, and Mrs. John Means at "Riverside."

*Ebenezer B. Gregory* no doubt came to Towanda through the influence of "Esquire Means." When\* the latter went down to Northumberland county after his sister, Nancy, afterwards Mrs. Dr. Warner, Mr. Gregory accompanied them on his return. In the language of one who knew him

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\* This was, with but little doubt, in the year 1794. His name is first found on the assessment for 1799.

well, "he came in to be rich with Yankee titles in wild land, but only procured a *squatter's* claim, where the village of Towanda now is." He lived in a double-log house near the river, a little northeast of the present residence of I. O. Blight, on the same lot. The building was used as a house of entertainment, and Mr. Gregory was licensed a "taverner" in 1802, (Jan. Sessions). He seems to have also engaged in the mercantile business for a short time, being marked "merchant" on the assessment roll of 1814. Mr. Gregory was a man of education and "very much of a gentleman." His wife was an accomplished lady, and as early as 1810 or 1811 established a boarding school\* at her own house for young ladies and girls. "She was a strict Presbyterian, efficient, but an exacting teacher." Mr. Gregory was one of the original proprietors of Towanda and donated from his portion two lots for an academy, which were subsequently appropriated to private uses. In about 1817 he moved to Owego, where Mrs. Gregory organized another school, and he died on charity. Mrs. Gregory was thrice married, Mr. Gregory being her last husband. Her maiden name was Celinda Bingham, sister of Ozias.

*James Lewis* located in the borough before 1798. He occupied a log house† standing on the gulf near where the Episcopal Church now is. In about 1806 he moved into Monroe, where he died in 1822.

*Frederick Eiklor* was also one of the earliest inhabitants.

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\* For a full history of this school see "Schools."

† Burr Ridgeway says: When I came to Towanda in 1803, James Lewis was living on the bank of the river near Overton's (now Blight's,) but afterwards sold out to E. B. Gregory. He had, without doubt, first occupied the house on the run.

He built and occupied a house where M. E. Rosenfield's store now stands. While dressing flax one day, it caught fire, and burned the house. He then moved to Rome.

*John Schrader*, a Hessian soldier who espoused the American cause, came to Towanda in or before 1799. He occupied a small board house, used both as a residence and cooper shop, which stood nearly east of the Presbyterian Church, near the site of McKean's hotel. After a few years he moved to Greenwood and settled where the tannery now is.

*Nathaniel Talcott* was an early resident of Towanda and "kept a little store."\* His name is found for the last time on the assessment rolls in 1809.

*Adam Conley*,† a blacksmith, came in from the West Branch and married Miss Betsy, sister of Wm. Means. He built and occupied a framed house, near the corner of Main and Pine streets, where Tracy & Nobles' block now is. On the opposite side of the street, on the site of Stevens & Long's store, he had his shop. After Mr. Conley's death his widow moved to the head of Seneca Lake, with her son, Clark, where she died. Their children were: Clark, Joseph, John, William, Eliza, Mary and Jane.

*Clark* learned the tailor's trade and had a shop adjoining his father's house. He subsequently moved to Ralston, Pa., and died there a few years since.

*Abijah Northrup*, (familiarily "Bij") before the year 1800,

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\* Mrs. John Cranmer, of Greenwood, now nearly eighty-four years old, says: "Mr. Talcott kept a little store above Mr. Means's."

† Jesse Woodruff, who came to Towanda in 1812, says: "Mr. Conley had already been here several years."

built a log cabin on the ground now occupied by the First National Bank. For many years he was employed by Wm. Means in running rafts down the Susquehanna, and became one of the most noted pilots on the river. He afterwards moved to an island near the mouth of Towanda Creek, thence above Greenwood, where he died. His father, Nathan Northrup, a native of Connecticut, came to Athens at an early day with his family, whence "Bij" proceeded to Towanda.

*Henry Mercur* came up the river from Lancaster county, Pa., in 1809-'10, and being pleased with the locality settled. He was a hatter by occupation, and for several years followed that trade in conjunction with farming. In a log house, which stood between where Mr. Blight's residence now is and Main street he opened his first shop. About 1811, he married Miss Mary, daughter of Francis and Jane Watts, and soon after moved into Leroy, on a place since known as the Stone farm. Selling out his interest here in 1815, he again returned to Towanda, purchased a lot and built a framed house\* thereon, the same standing on the northeast corner of State and Second streets. In a part of his residence he opened a hatter's shop, and continued to work at his trade till 1828, when he sold his business to Zenas and Benjamin Thomas. However, during this time, from 1818 to 1820 he served as County Treasurer. He then turned his attention to farming, spending a portion of his time in his study. Having invested in real estate in

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\* This house in which Judge Mercur and Mahlon C., were born is yet standing on the west side of Second street, in a good state of preservation.



northern Illinois, he went thither to look after his interests, and remained for six or eight years, then returned to Towanda, where he died Sept. 10, 1868, aged 82 years. His wife, Mary, had preceded him to the grave, Dec. 14, 1839, at the age of 49 years.

Henry Mercur was of German parentage, his father having emigrated from Germany and settled in Lancaster county, Pa., where the subject of this notice was born. At a proper age he was sent to Germany to be educated. He entered one of the most thorough universities, and continued his studies for nearly ten years, then returned to America, a scholar and a gentleman. When he came to Bradford county he was, perhaps, the most scholarly man in Northern Pennsylvania. He was not only a scientific scholar of rare excellence, but a linguist. He was fluent in German, read Latin, and knew a considerable of the Arabian and Sanskrit. "Indeed," says one capable of judging, "he was the only thoroughly educated man I ever knew." Unto Henry and Mary Mercur were born six children, viz: Henry S., James W., Mahlon C., Ulysses, Hiram, and Eliza.

*Henry S.*, at the age of twenty years (1832), engaged in the mercantile business with Judge Ellis Lewis, and subsequently with his brothers. During the last two years preceding his death, he had charge of the coal business of M. C. Mercur & Co., at Pittston. (See first merchants).

*James W.*, for a few years was associated with his brother H. S., in the mercantile business. His health having failed he retired from the firm and visited South America and

Italy in hopes of recovery; but getting no relief he returned to Towanda and died.

*Mahlon C.*, a prominent, active citizen of the county, for sketch of, see biographical notices.

*Ulysses*, the present Chief Justice of the State, for sketch of, see biographical notices.

*Hiram*, when a young man twenty years of age, entered into copartnership with Thomas Elliott, but went out of business after three years on account of failing health. He made a trip to South America, but died soon after returning. He was one of the most active money-making young men Towanda ever had.

*Eliza* died when a young lady.

*Colonel Harry Spalding* came in from Sheshequin in about the year 1810. He was a man of enterprise and engaged in the mercantile trade. He first had a small storè, below where the Barclay depot now stands, on the road leading to Towanda Creek. Afterwards he put up a framed store\* between the log house, stated as having been occupied by Henry Mercur as a hatter's shop, and the gulf—on the lot of now I. O. Blight. In 1812 he built the residence of Mrs. Wm. Mix, and opened his house as a place of entertainment for the public. Appurtenant to it he had a storè. In the first issue of the *Bradford Gazette*, Aug. 9, 1813, appears the following "ad:":

"Fresh Goods.—Harry Spalding & Co. have just received, and for sale, a general assortment of dry goods, and

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\* Upon the establishment of the *Bradford Gazette* this building was used for the first printing office in the county.

groceries, also soal and upper leather, barr iron, hollow ware, stoves, earthenware, &c., &c., &c., which they offer for cash on the lowest terms.

N. B.—Those indebted to the above firm, for the term of one year, must attend to the payment of their respective accounts immediately, or collections will be enforced without discrimination."

"TOWANDA, Aug. 9, 1813."

"HARRY SPALDING & CO."

"By mutual agreement the firm of Harry Spalding & Co. was dissolved Oct. 7, 1813, Spalding to continue the business." The members of the firm were H. Spalding, John Robinson, and Stephen C. King.

Mr. Spalding was a man of prominence in the county, and did much for the prosperity of the town. He was the first Treasurer of the county and Colonel of Militia. His death occurred May 23, 1821, at the age of 37 years. His children were Franklin, Asa, Harry, James, Simon, and Weltha. The daughter married Ulysses M. Warner of Wysox, and moved to Rockford, Ill., where the brothers also located. Mrs. Spalding married for her second husband Wm. Myer, of Wysox. She died at Rockford.

*Jesse Woodruff*, Towanda's first tailor, was born in Bridgton, Cumberland county, N. J., Nov. 26, 1790. He was the youngest of ten children. His father, Jesse Woodruff, died when he was but seven years old. He remained with his widowed mother until he was fifteen years of age, when he went to Philadelphia to learn the tailor's trade. Completing his trade after having attained his majority, he went

to Wilkes-Barre, where he worked for a short time, thence took the stage for Towanda, where he arrived on the 25th of November, 1812. He says: "I found a miserable looking place, and wished myself back to Wilkes-Barre." The inhabitants of the village then were Wm. Means, Harry Spalding, Adam Conley, Abijah Northrup, E. B. Gregory, Oliver Newell, and the Watts family. Means, Conley, Spalding and Newell occupied the framed houses, and the others log houses. He rented a log house west of Mr. Gregory's for a tailor's shop, and having received a liberal patronage says: "before my quarter was up I had got pretty well contented, and purchased the lot and logs with it for \$175." Mr. Woodruff continued business here for several years, and it is evident that he kept apace with the times from the subjoined advertisement which appeared in the first number of the *Bradford Gazette*:

"Jesse Woodruff, tailor, respectfully informs the citizens of Towanda and its vicinity, that he has commenced business opposite Mr. Gregory's and intends carrying on the tailoring business on an extensive scale, and hopes by his workmanship and punctuality to merit a share of the public patronage."

"TOWANDA, Aug. 9, 1813."

After a few years he quit tailoring and built a hotel on the ground now occupied by the stores of Wm. Chamberlain and S. P. Whitcomb. His place was known as the "Tiger Hotel," and was afterwards kept by Daniel Bartlett, to whom he sold. He built a second hotel, the "Bradford House," on the present site of the *Reporter-Journal* office

and the Council rooms. About 1840, he sold to Ira H. Stevens, and after a couple of years, purchased a farm in North Towanda where he remained until 1863, when he went to Battle Creek, Mich., to spend the residue of his days with a daughter. His demise occurred Sept. 29, 1880, and his remains were brought east and laid beside those of his sleeping companion in Riverside.

Jesse Woodruff, or "Uncle Jesse," as he was better known to the young people, was a man whose company was enjoyed by the youth and aged alike. He was genial, always ready to crack or enjoy a joke, and especially apt in *repartee*. In his old age he was literally "a boy grown old," and the recollections of those that knew him are most pleasant, and his memory deeply cherished. Among other pastimes "Uncle Jesse" enjoyed a game of checkers with "the boys," and so famous did he become in this direction that his peer could hardly be found. After having discontinued the hotel business he experienced religion and became one of the most punctual and ardent members of the Presbyterian Church. In the Autumn of 1813 he was united in marriage with Mary Dobbins, of Burlington, and began house-keeping in the log house, which he had purchased. The children resulting from this marriage were: *Celinda*, who married Edward Young, an Englishman, and is the mother of Prothonotary, W. J. Young;

*Mary* married Isaac Kellum of Towanda, and moved to Battle Creek, Michigan;

*Thomas P.*, for some years a jeweler in Towanda, went to California in 1851, where he still resides;

*Leroy* is a resident of Towanda ;

*Ruth* died when a young lady.

*Francis Watts*, a gentleman of Scotch-Irish extraction, who had married Miss Jane, sister of Wm. Means, came in from the West Branch not long after his brother-in-law, and occupied about 400 acres of land, extending from the Arcade block to Geo. Blackman's, and from the river a mile westward. He built a log house, nearly where Mr. Hawes' residence now is, and the homestead was in the occupancy of the family for more than three-quarters of a century. Mr. Watts died before 1809, and left a large family. Mrs. Watts only having a squatter's claim, gave one-half the possession to Harry Spalding for securing and advancing the money necessary to perfect the title. Mr. Watts was a descendant on his mother's side of — Clark, one of Penn's first Council. He was also a relative of Judge Watts of Cumberland Co., Pa. The children of Francis and Jane Watts were :

*John*, who resided in Canton ;

*Squire*, married Margaret Gregg and also lived in Canton ;

*Means*, married Susan Bowman and lived and died in Towanda township ;

*James*, married Rebecca Bowman, and occupied the homestead in the upper part of the village ;

*Polly*, married Henry Mercur, of Towanda ;

*Jane*, married Oliver Newell ;

*Elinor*, married William Spalding, of Canton ;

*Betsey*, married Davis Vandike, of Canton ;

*Thomas*, died when a young man.

Mrs. Watts died with her son, James, and Mr. Watts out of the county, when away on business or visiting.

*Oliver Newell*, a carpenter by occupation, located at Towanda, on the Watts place, perhaps not far from the year 1804. He built and occupied a small framed house, which stood on the site of William Dittrich's present residence.

In 1824, he sold to Francis Delpuech and removed to Grover, where he died. He married Jane Watts, who bore him several children.

*Burr Ridgeway*, one of the most eminent and interesting characters of "early times," was of Quaker descent, and was born in the town of Springfield, Burlington Co. N. J., Apr. 17, 1780. When he was eleven years old, his father removed to Philadelphia, and was accidentally killed soon thereafter leaving young Burr at that tender age without a father's care to shape his future destiny in life's untrodden path. In 1803 he came to Wysox, to take charge of John Hollenback's store and house of entertainment. In the following year he was appointed postmaster for Wysox, then the only postoffice between Wyalusing and Sheshequin. He purchased what is known as the "Piollet farm," but sold it in 1808, and purchased on Wysox creek, where he, in company with one of his brothers, built a saw and grist-mill. Not meeting with the success which he had anticipated, and having had ill-luck in making his first shipment, he was compelled to abandon the enterprise and returned to Philadelphia for a year or two. Having earned a small capital, he again returned to the county, and in the fall of 1812 came to Towanda to clerk for William Means. He at first took

up his residence in a log house, owned by Harry Spalding, standing on the gulf where the Episcopal church now is. Subsequently he built a house on the lot now occupied by Patton's block and lived there.

In March, 1813, he was appointed a Justice of the Peace by Gov. Simon Snyder, for the district comprising the townships of Towanda, Burlington and Wysox; and at the October election in 1813, he was elected County Commissioner on the Democratic ticket over Col. Joseph Kingsbury, the Federal candidate, the vote being respectively 365 and 257. Thomas Simpson wishing to sell the *Bradford Gazette*, Mr. Ridgeway purchased it of him, and began its publication with the first issue in 1815. At this time there was not a mail route, in the county, on the west side of the river, and but one on the east side, the mail being brought once a week each from the north and south. When Mr. Ridgeway began publishing the *Gazette*, the people were very obliging and one seemed to vie with another in distributing the papers. Mr. Ridgeway circulated a petition and forwarded it to the Postmaster General, praying that a mail route be established for the accommodation of the people of the western part of the county. Proposals were issued for two lines for a term of two years, which were to pass through several of the townships, the mail to be carried on horseback. Mr. Ridgeway became the contractor upon both lines. He continued the publication of the *Gazette* for over three years, when a difficulty arose between C. F. Welles and Samuel McKean, which ended in a law-suit that was very injurious to the paper. As a result he sold the press



and material, and moved to Wysox, where he turned his attention to agriculture.

Upon the election of Joseph Hiester he was appointed Prothonotary and Register and Recorder of the county. At the close of Hiester's term, he purchased a farm on the South Branch of the Towanda creek and went there to live in 1822. He, however, again returned to Towanda, continued as a Justice of the Peace, and for a short time engaged in the mercantile business. In 1846, he went to Franklin to reside, and there remained until the time of his death, Aug. 19, 1876. Besides the offices enumerated, Mr. Ridgeway filled many other places of honor and trust, and his capacity and integrity were always appreciated by his fellow-citizens. He was prominent in the Masonic order, and was one of the first members in the county. His life was useful, his name popular, and his memory cherished by many.\*

*Alphonsus C. Stewart*, came to Towanda in 1812, upon the organization of the county, to practice law. He built a house on the corner of Lombard and Main streets, but sold to Charles F. Welles in 1816 and went West.†

*Andrew Irvine*, "the tanner," was born in Northumberland county, Pa., May 28, 1789. He was the eldest son of John Irvine and Mary Fullerton (Mrs. Thomas), his mother being his father's third wife.

\*For a fuller history of this venerable father, see "History of Monroe."

†After removing to the western country he was decoyed, by a man who was jealous of him, into a sham duel. Blank cartridges were to be fired, but Mr. Stewart's adversary secretly put a ball into his pistol, and with it killed him. The coward left the country, but was arrested after a couple of years, tried, convicted and hung for murder.

His grand-parents\* were natives of Scotland, but emigrated to Ireland where his father, John, was born.

John Irvine was an Episcopalian, took the oath of allegiance to King George, came to America and settled near Milton, in Northumberland county. When Andrew was seven years old his father died, and he at that early age earned his first money at a ferry near by. His mother carefully hoarded his earnings and with them bought an iron stew-pot with a cover, famous in those days for cooking *pot-pie*. This became a part of his scanty kitchen furniture when he set up house-keeping, and still remains in the family. He enjoyed the usual short term of winter school, but acquired the rudiments of learning sufficiently for business purposes. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to Mr. Snyder, a tanner. Here he faithfully served his time, and as well learned to speak the German language—an accomplishment of which he was very proud, and ever retained. In 1812 he and his brother, Guy C.,† volunteered in the American army. Upon being disbanded in the fall of 1812, Andrew came home by the headwaters of the Susquichanna, passing the village of Meansville. The place, at that day, was more remarkable for three streams of water running through it, than anything else it possessed. The center stream caught the eye of Andrew as the spot to locate a tannery. Accordingly he purchased a half-acre of ground of Wm. Means and erected a log house‡ thereon, two

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\* Tradition says that the name Irvine is derived from "heir of the vine."

† He in after years became one of the greatest lumbermen in Warren Co., Pa.

‡ This was in the spring of 1813.

stories high. In the upper room he cooked his meals and slept, using the lower room for a shop. Mr. Irvine's lot extended from one door south of where M. E. Rosenfield's store now is to Patton's block. His log house stood about thirty-five feet below Main street, back of the place now known as "Tidd's Hotel." The tannery was situated on the creek, north and east of the log house. "While Mr. Irvine was engaged in digging a well, in Sept., 1813, strange sounds, like the distant roar of cannon, were heard. It was the day of Perry's victory on Lake Erie, but could not be accounted for at the time."

In Sept. 1814, he married Catharine McAfee, daughter of Maj. James McAfee, of Turbot, Northumberland Co., Pa. Mr. Irvine prospered in all his undertakings, assisted in no small degree by his self-denying wife, who bore the privations of her lot, to carry out his schemes, with a cheerfulness and happy spirit worthy of all praise. He was a man of untiring energy, and was distinguished for his good judgment and sterling integrity. From 1824 to 1826 he was County Treasurer and again in 1830 and '31. In 1828 he built a two-story brick house, the first in Towanda. This building stood on the ground now occupied by Tidd's hotel. Mr. Irvine did an extensive business for that day, and combined lumbering with tanning. Barter was then used in all grades of business, as may be seen from the following :

"The subscriber has on hand a quantity of soal and upper leather, which he will dispose of on reasonable terms for cash or green hides. Good wheat and shingles will be

taken in exchange if delivered at the subscriber's tan-yard in Towanda."

"AND'W. IRWIN."

*Bradford Gazette*, Aug. 9, 1813.

Afterwards he became a farmer on the "Pine Plains," where he owned a farm on the bank of the river. He was a partner with Simon Kinney and David Cash in the ownership of land bought of Shephard and Dorrance, covering the greater portion of the hill-side of the borough of Towanda, and stretching down to the river south of the Public Square. He also owned lots north and west of the village. In order to better his fortunes and those of his children, Mr. Irvine moved with his family to Warren Co. Pa., in 1836. Having purchased a large tract of land, he engaged actively in lumbering. The patrimonial estate is still in possession of the family, "producing oil for subsistence and gas for light and heat—an unlooked for means of wealth and comfort."

Mr. Irvine died Jan. 4, 1853. He was a prominent Free Mason, and belonged to one other society in which he was styled the "Grand Sachem," a name that clung to him. In politics he was an active Democrat, and was fearless in declaring his principles. Of his family four children are yet living. His eldest child, Miss Jane D. Irvine, born Oct. 15, 1815, is claimed to have been the first child born within the original borough limits. Timothy H. Lewis, born in 1798, as far as we have any record, was the first child born within the present borough.

*Ethan Baldwin*, a lawyer and physician, came to Towanda from Washington Co. Pa., in 1812. He at first lived in

North Towanda, on the Powell or Brown place, but afterwards purchased a farm—now included in the J. C. Adams estate—built a stone house and resided there for some years, whence he removed to Harrisburg (in 1828), thence to Philadelphia. It is said that he was not a complete success as a physician; but “as an advocate at the bar he was famed for metaphorical comparisons and illustrations, and his imagery was often sublime. He had an extraordinary memory, and prolific imagination, and moreover an inventive genius. Among other things he invented a dirt-excavator, to be employed in building canals, which is said to have operated well. In making one of his experiments, he was badly disfigured by an explosion of steam. Mr. Baldwin was a man of self-reliance, ambitious and sanguine in his undertakings. He was a volunteer candidate for Congress and received the indorsement of the minority party, but was defeated. For a short time he was postmaster at Towanda. Mrs. Baldwin is remembered as a lady of refinement.

*Simon Kinney, Esq.*,—the first white child born in the present town of Sheshequin—came to Towanda\* in 1813-14, to follow his profession—that of law. He was a son of Joseph Kinney, a soldier of the Revolution, and Sarah Spalding, a daughter of Gen. Simon Spalding, of Revolutionary celebrity. His early life was spent in assisting in clearing up a heavily timbered farm, receiving in the meantime, a careful moral and intellectual training. At his

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\*His residence stood about where A. J. Layton's house now is, and his lot embraced those of A. J. Layton and Benj. M. Peck, and extended back to the old convent.

majority he married Phœbe Cash, and removed to a farm, which his father owned in Scipio, N. Y., and commenced the study of law. Finding his means inadequate to properly complete his studies and procure a library, the farm was sold and the proceeds used for establishing him in business at Towanda. He was a man of unquestioned legal ability, being the compeer of Mallery, Conyngham, Denison, Strong, Williston, Overton, Baldwin and Watkins, leaders at the bar of Bradford and Northern Pennsylvania. He was a member of the State Legislature for the sessions of 1820-21 and 1821-22, the district then comprising the counties of Tioga and Bradford, also County Treasurer for 1816-17. Mr. Kinney was a man of strong mind, and his service is favorably remembered by active participators in the political affairs of the time. The great David Wilmot completed his law studies in Mr. Kinney's office. He was one of the most prominent and active men of the county. In 1834, he removed to Rockford, Ill., with his family.

Mr. Kinney's family were somewhat remarkable and noted. His children were Harriet, Henry, Lawrence, Joseph, Warren, Emily, Sarah, and Anna.

*Col. H. L. Kinney* achieved an enviable celebrity by his dash, courage and enterprise, which made him at one time quite the lion of the country. He was the founder of Corpus Christi, Texas, and peopled the town by a denomination of his own settlers; served in the Mexican war in Gen. Scott's army; supplied the commissariat with stores from the resources of the country; and was deemed a millionaire at the end of the war. He spent much of his for-

tune afterwards in Central American expeditions. During the rebellion, he served in Mexico as Colonel of her army, and fought against the French and Maximilian and was killed at Monterey, while leading a small troop in ferreting out guerrillas in the city. He became one of the finest horsemen of Texas, taking lessons of the Comanches, and so far surpassing them that they were, to his mastery, but initiates. He won many victories over them in some of their sharpest fights. It will not be amiss, perhaps, to state that he married a daughter of Gen. Lamar of the "Lone Star" fame.

*Joseph Warren* followed the fortunes of his brother in Texas, and acquired considerable landed property. He was accidentally shot, by the explosion of his pistol, in mounting his horse, and died from the wound soon after.

*Harriet* married Dr. Whitehead and removed to Peoria, Ill. She was a woman of rare intelligence, and acquired accomplishments of a high order for her day.

"*Emily, Sarah, and Anna* maintained the reputation meted out to the family generally by common consent."

*Charles F. Welles*,\* upon the organization of the county, received from the Governor authority to administer the oaths of office to the newly chosen officers, and himself was chosen Prothonotary, Clerk of the Courts, Register and Recorder, and the first records of the county are in his own neat and peculiar penmanship. For ten years he was a resident of Towanda, when he removed to Wyalusing in 1822. He was a son of George Welles, one of the first settlers of

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\*He built and occupied the house, now used as a residence by Mrs. Barstow.

Athens, and was born at Glastonbury, Conn., Nov. 5, 1789. In 1816, he was joined in wedlock with Miss Ellen J., daughter of Judge Hollenback.

Mr. Welles was a man of varied and extensive reading. He wielded a busy pen, and contributed for the press some of the best poetic articles which were published. Though never a politician, in the sense of aspiring for office, he took a deep interest in political questions. In early life he espoused the principles advocated by Jefferson; later, he became an admirer of Henry Clay, and a defender of his policy. During his residence in Towanda, he exerted a well-nigh controlling influence in the politics of the county. His articles on political questions, written at this time, were marked by breadth of view and urged with a cogency of reasoning that carried conviction to the mind of the reader, while the corrupt politician received scathing rebukes from his trenchant pen. He became an extensive land owner and left a fine fortune at his death, Sept. 23, 1866.

*James Grant* was evidently an early resident of Towanda. In several issues of the *Bradford Gazette*, appeared the following notice, dated Sept. 6, 1813: "James Grant respectfully informs the public that he has again commenced the practice of physic and surgery, at Towanda." It is very probable that he remained a short time only as his name is not found upon our assessment lists.

*The Ringers*, among whom Jacob was chief, were "watermen" on the Susquehanna, and "single freemen."

*Jacob* finally married and lived in Towanda for a while, then moved to Ohio.



*The Vandykes*—John Vandyke, a native of Holland, emigrated to America and at first settled near Trenton, N. J., whence he removed to Turbit township, Northumberland county, Pa. He married an Irish lady and remained in Northumberland, where he reared his family. In 1815, William Vandyke, a son, came to Towanda and purchased of John Leavenworth a tract of land on Towanda creek, including a grist-mill\* and a saw-mill. Mr. Vandyke and the balance of the family came the same, or the following year. In 1817, John Vandyke was assessed as follows: "Seven acres of land improved; 7 town lots; 2 houses; a tan-yard, and a horse and cow." His land extended from the Overton basin to State street.† Mr. Vandyke's sons settled about him. *Davis*, "the saddler," occupied the James Ward place. He had a saddlery-shop on the ground where Dr. Pratt's residence now stands. After some years he sold out and moved to Granville township, where he lived until the time of his demise.

*Wilson*, "the tanner," moved to Allegany, N. Y., and there died.

*John* lived where Henry Porter now does. He sold out and removed to Canton, where he spent the residue of his days. In 1825, Mr. Vandyke and his son William, traded their property in Towanda with H. W. Tracy for lands in Ulster township, on what is now known as Moore's Hill, and moved there while the locality was yet a wilderness.

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\* These mills occupied the old mill site at Hale's.

† He lived in the framed house between Jesse Woodruff's tailor shop and the gulf. The "tan-yard" was owned by the Vandykes until 1822, when it passed into the hands of Spalding and Cash.

The farm on which both spent their last days is yet owned and occupied by the family.

*William* married Miss Susan, daughter of James Daugherty, whose mother's maiden name was Hammond. He was the father of G. H. Vandyke, Esq., of Ulster, the present efficient and popular Democratic County Commissioner.

*Eliphalet Mason\** came to Towanda in 1816, "being the twelfth family within the borough limits." He built a house on the corner west of Main street, and north of State street, which he afterwards sold to Geo. Scott, Esq. In 1820 he erected a stone house, out of small stones, in front of the Public Square, standing where Jordan's meat market now is. The building was christened the "Stone Heap," but nicknamed the "Stone-Jug." He built a store building adjoining and engaged in selling groceries for about a year. In 1822 he erected a store-house on the corner of Court and Main streets, opposite the Public Square, which he rented to Gurdon Hewett. Of Mr. Mason's residence in Towanda he says: "In the spring of 1817 grain was very scarce. Corn had been ruined by the frosts of the Fall before, and every kind of food was in meagre supply. It became evident that some one must undertake to supply the village with meat, and as I could best afford the time, the task fell upon me. Indeed, so great was the dependence, that the villagers could not boil the pot without my providing." For many years Mr. Mason was one of the most prominent men of the county. His early life was spent in teaching. In the Fall of 1814, he was commissioned Lieutenant of

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\* For a full sketch of, see history of Monroe.

Militia, and with others was drafted in the war of 1812. A company of 110 men was raised and placed under his command and sent to Danville, awaiting orders; but returned home after a month's absence. At the October election, 1814, he was chosen County Auditor, being the only Democrat elected on the ticket that year. From April, 1815, he acted as Deputy Sheriff, under A. C. Rockwell, till the close of his term, and transacted nearly all the business connected with the office. In 1816 he was elected County Commissioner over A. C. Rockwell, his brother-in-law, the Federal candidate. July 1, 1818, he was commissioned by Gov. Findlay, Recorder of Deeds, &c., and in conjunction with the Prothonotary to administer oaths of office to such persons as might be appointed by the Governor. In 1824 he was appointed a Commissioner with Edward Eldred and Wm. Brindle to lay out a State road from Muncy to Towanda. Again, in 1829, he was elected to the office of County Commissioner, having a greater majority than his competitor had votes. In 1837 Mr. Mason and his son, Gordon F., purchased several thousand acres of land of the Asylum Company, lying in Bradford county. The investment proved a fruitful one. Mr. Mason continued in active and varied business till 1844, when he threw off most of his cares to enjoy his closing days. He found great comfort in making verse, reading his papers, and in frequently contributing an article to the press. His writings will be remembered by many under the *sobriquet* of "Old South." Mr. Mason was a man of genius, indomitable energy and undaunted courage. His honesty and integrity were never

questioned, and of littleness he was never accused. His life was a successful one and a noble example.

His son, Gordon F., of whom a sketch is given in another part of this work, was also a prominent man of the county. The late Dr. E. Hastings Mason, of Towanda, was a son also.

*Walter S. Minthorn*, "a mechanic," came to Towanda in 1817. He was a soldier of the war of 1812, and lost a leg. For a while he lived on the corner of Second and State streets, finally moving to Rome.

*Nathaniel Heacock*, "a carpenter," was assessed in Towanda in 1817. He lived at the terminus of Second street, with Lombard. From Towanda he went to Canton.

*William Kelly* and sons, Lewis and William, mechanics, settled in Towanda in 1818. He established a ferry, across the river, the wharf being at the terminus of State street, and was known as the "Upper," or "Kelly's Ferry." His house stood on the corner of Water street, south of State. He also kept a grocery, for a while, on Court street, which he sold to Benjamin Hunt. Lewis Kelly lived on Second street, where Benjamin Northup now does. He followed cabinet-making. Thinking Newtown a more favorable place in his business, he moved thither.

*Dr. Charles Whitehead* located at Towanda in 1818. His house stood a little south of N. N. Bett's present residence, in the same lot, which he then owned. He was a man of ability and considerable eminence. From 1820 to 1823 he was Register and Recorder of the county. He was also a Justice of the Peace. He died in 1825 (aged 31 years) and

was buried in Riverside Cemetery. Mrs. Whitehead taught school in the village after her husband's death.

*Lewis P. Franks*, a printer, came to Towanda in 1817, and edited the *Washingtonian*, the first regular Federal paper in the county. After continuing the paper about a year, he turned its management over to Octavius Holden, who continued its publication only a short time. Franks is remembered as a central figure, with a keen intellect, but eccentric. He wielded an able and trenchant pen. Upon leaving Towanda he went to Philadelphia, where he engaged in journalism.

*John Stowers* was a Deputy Sheriff and jailor under Lemuel Streeter, having removed to Towanda in 1819. He at first lived in the basement of the old Court House, then built on his lot, the same as now occupied by Mercur's block, a little below the Citizen's National Bank. He sold out to Col. Harry Mix, and removed to Binghamton, where a son had preceded him and gone into business.

*Charles Comstock* occupied the lot of now Benj. M. Peck, and had a store a little south of his present residence. He came to Towanda in 1819, and removed to Athens in about 1823, where he was a merchant for many years.

*Jacob P. Ensley*, a shoemaker, was a resident of Towanda in 1819, and occupied the first floor of Jesse Woodruff's tailor shop.

*James E. Haslet*, a mason, was also a resident of the borough in 1819, and lived in a small house where Hon. W. T. Davies' residence now is.

*Edwin Benjamin* came to Towanda in about the same

time (1818) that he and Lemuel Streeter purchased the *Bradford Gazette*. He was postmaster of Towanda in 1819 and County Clerk in 1821. He lived where A. Snell's residence now is.

*Elisha Newberry*, a blacksmith, began working at his trade in the village in 1819. He subsequently moved to Troy and became a prominent citizen there.

*Hon. George Scott*, a native of Berkshire county, Mass., born Nov. 19, 1784, having attained his majority, in company with an elder brother, David, started for the "Sunny South" to begin life in earnest and make his fortune. The young men were both well educated for those days, and had decided to engage in school teaching, when an opportunity presented itself, until something more congenial and paying should be found. Accordingly, some time in 1805 or 6, they set out with a single horse, and drifted into Wysox, Bradford county. They made their business known, whereupon the citizens called a meeting at the house of Burr Ridgeway, and George was hired to teach the school of the district. David found employment west of the river and taught a school opposite where his nephew, H. L. Scott, Esq., now resides. He also clerked for William Means, read law in the meantime, and finally went to Wilkes-Barre, where he was admitted to the bar. He became a man of note—was Prothonotary, &c., of Luzerne county, and for several years President Judge of the Luzerne District.

George continued teaching in Wysox, and having been appointed a Justice of the Peace, purchased a lot, next beyond the "brick church," and built a house thereon. Finally

Miss Lydia, daughter of Henry Strobe, "possessed the necessary charms," and he became a permanent fixture in the county. Upon the organization of the county in 1812, he was appointed an Associate Judge with John McKean, by Gov. Snyder, and held that office until 1818. He was clerk to the County Commissioners from 1815 to 1820, and was appointed Prothonotary in 1818, and Register and Recorder in 1824, which office he held till 1830. In 1816 he was appointed a Commissioner to superintend the distribution of the funds appropriated for the building of the State Road, "extending eastward and westward through the county," and passing through Towanda.

In the Autumn of 1819, Mr. Scott moved to Towanda with his family and took up his residence on the corner north of State street, west of Main, but afterwards lived and died on the ground now occupied by Dr. Pratt. He edited and published the *Bradford Settler* from 1821 to '23, his printing office standing east of Main street, and south of State, near the corner. From 1823 to '24 he was County Treasurer, and for many years was prominent in the politics of the county. He died at Towanda, March 2, 1834, and was buried in Riverside Cemetery.

Mr. Scott was a man of fine clerical ability, accurate and executed his penmanship in a neat and systematic manner. He was a man of excellent judgment and unquestioned integrity, which, together with his clerical ability, made him a most valuable servant of the people in the early history of the county. In politics he was Democratic-Republican; and as a citizen was prominent, patriotic and influential.

Mrs. Scott survived her husband many years. She was born in Wysox, Feb. 29, 1788, and died in Towanda, Feb. 25, 1881.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott reared a bright family. The following were their children :

*Rowena* (born April 23, 1807) married Burton Kingsbury, deceased, a dry-goods merchant of Towanda for many years. Mrs. Kingsbury is yet living in Towanda, and is a pleasant and entertaining lady, of a clear and accurate memory.

*George* (born 1814) went to Catawissa, Columbia county, Pa., and became a man of prominence. He served three or four terms in the State Legislature; was elected Canal Commissioner in 1856; became president of a bank and for several years engaged somewhat extensively in contracting.

*David L.* (born 1809) was a physician and practiced at Towanda for some years; he entered the service of the Union and died at Albany, N. Y., in 1865. He married Miss Julia H. Kinney, sister of G. Wayne, and O. P. H. Kinney, of Sheshequin. Mrs. Scott was a lady of rare intelligence, and poetic genius. She was a poetical contributor of merit to the periodicals of her time. Her poems have been collected and two editions published. They rank well with those that have been produced by the more eminent authors.

*Wilson* (born 1816) was a young man of culture and great promise. He was a graduate of Jefferson College, studied law and formed a partnership with David Wilmot; but as he was rapidly attaining eminence, he was suddenly cut down by the sword of Fate. His display of extraordinary



talents, combined with a fine person and most agreeable manners, made him a gentleman to be greatly admired.

*William* (born 1820) is a resident of Towanda and has been agent of the Towanda Coal Company for several years.

*Walter* (born 1820) was for several years a contractor, and resides at Baltimore, Md.

*H. Lawrence* (born 1824) studied law but it not proving congenial to his tastes, engaged in farming. He was elected Register and Recorder in 1851, and in 1862 was appointed U. S. Collector of Internal Revenues for the 13th Congressional District, which office he resigned in 1869. He was one of the Directors of the Towanda Iron Manufacturing Company and was made Secretary and Treasurer upon its organization. Mr. Scott has taken a prominent part in politics, and has always been an earnest adherent of the Republican party. His good judgment, and many excellent traits of character, make him a gentleman of whom his friends and neighbors are justly proud.

*Luther* (born 1818) has always been a resident of Towanda.

*Lydia E.*, (born 1826) married Gen. H. J. Madill, and resides in Towanda.

*Clinton* (born 1829) was a dentist, and became a man of prominence in Eureka, Cal., where he died.

*William Hart*, a native of New Jersey, came to Wysox about the close of the war of 1812, in which he served as a farrier and shod Capt. Scott's (afterward General) horse. He was for a time connected with Hollenback's store and house of entertainment. While here engaged, he married a daughter of Henry Strobe. In 1818 he moved to To-

wanda and rented the "Red Tavern" and ferry of Mr. Means. He perhaps kept the hotel but one year, then worked at his trade, that of blacksmith. He finally moved to Monroeton, where he resided until the time of his death.

*Gurdon Hewett*, who had engaged in lumbering at Monroe and married a daughter of Wm. Means, came to Towanda in 1819 and engaged in the mercantile business. He built a store on the corner of Main and Bridge streets, where Patton's block now stands, and a residence farther east. About 1827 he removed to Owego, N. Y., engaged in the banking business, and became, it is said, a millionaire. He was the architect of his own fortune, having begun life as a poor boy. From 1821 to 1822 he was Treasurer of Bradford county.

*William Keeler* came to Towanda in 1820, and for a couple of years kept hotel. He was then a partner in the mercantile business with Thomas Elliott. They occupied the store south of the "Stone Jug," erected by E. Mason, where Fitch's confectionery store now is. Mr. Keeler had a great deal of wit, and will be remembered as the *esprit de corps* of the village in perpetrating practical jokes. He was the idol of the smaller boys and took great delight in gratifying their mischievous natures. His jokes were always rich and new, and if written out would quite excel "Peck's Bad Boy." Finally, to the sorrow of the boys, Mr. Keeler migrated to Rockford, Ill., where he died.

*Joseph C. Powell*, upon being elected Sheriff, came to Towanda to reside in 1821. He was a son of Stephen Powell, a Revolutionary soldier, who emigrated from Dutchess

county, N. Y., to Ulster, Bradford county, in 1798, and settled the first farm above "the Narrows."

The subject of this sketch was a grandson of Joseph Powell, a Moravian missionary, who with his brother, Samuel Powell, came from Shropshire, on the border of Wales. The Powell brothers first preached at New Haven, but finally joined the mission at Bethlehem,—the chief Moravian settlement. Joseph was active and prominent as a missionary for years. He labored in the holy cause, among the Indians and Negroes of Jamaica and at various missions, being finally sent to the Indian station, Wechquadnach, Conn., on the confines of the State of New York, and died at Sharon. In 1859 the Moravian Historical Society, erected a monument over his grave, bearing inscriptions of their affection. He was the father of Stephen, who settled at Ulster and died there. Joseph C. was born in Dutchess county, June 10, 1786. His early life was spent upon his father's farm. At a suitable age he married Miss Mary Smith, of Ulster, and soon after went to Troy and engaged in the mercantile business, where he remained until the time of his election to the office of Sheriff.

He took an active part in the organization of the county, and became somewhat conspicuous in politics, being a strong adherent of the Whig party. He was a man of fine intelligence, and of sterling integrity. That he was popular, and his worth appreciated, may be seen from the fact that he was frequently called to fill places of honor and trust, even against adverse partisan majorities. In 1818 he was elected

County Commissioner, and at the expiration of his term as such to the office of Sheriff.

Again in 1836 he was made Prothonotary by the voluntary suffrages of the people, and a member of the State Legislature in 1849.

Upon moving to Towanda Mr. Powell at first occupied the Barstow house but finally moved to North Towanda on his farm, where he remained until the time of his death, Sept. 2, 1854. His outside business was, however, somewhat varied. He carried on lumbering, and for a time kept a store at Towanda and had another at Burlington. After having lost his first wife, he married Mrs. Vespasian Ellis, *nee* Selina Phillips. Of his first marriage, Percival and B. Franklin were well known. The former, for some time postmaster of Towanda, engaged in tailoring and the sale of ready-made clothing; and the latter in journalism, being for many years editor of the *Bradford Argus*, and a proprietor with "Judge" Parsons.

Of his second marriage, Lucretia married John K. Baker, of Bath, N. Y.; Mary married W. B. Webb, of Chicago; and the Hon. Joseph, of whom a sketch is contained under biographical notices.

*Wm. Rippeth* (1821) lived in Towanda for a short time, then moved to Shores Hill, where he purchased a farm.

*Andrew Trout*, (1821) a blacksmith, and soldier of the war of 1812, was a resident of Towanda till 1831, when he was drowned with Geo. H. Bingham at Shamokin dam. He had a number of sons, who became bright men.

*John* learned the trade of gunsmith, went to William-

sport and became a man of standing and affluence. Other sons were Ransom, William, Jackson, George. Mr. Trout's widow afterwards married Luke Gillespie, and both died recently at very advanced ages.

*Warren Brown* came to Towanda as early as 1817. He built the "County House,"\* so called from its having been built of second-hand material procured of the County Commissioners. This building stood where the residence of J. J. Griffith now is, and was used as a hotel by Mr. Brown as early as 1824. He was Clerk of the County from 1826-'30; and in about 1832 went West with his family.

*James Catlin* and *Octavius Holden* were early residents of Towanda, and among the first printers.

*William F. Dinniger*, a Frenchman skilled in the art of teaching, came in from Wysox, taught school and resided for a while. The early records of Wysox show that he took quite an active part in politics, and held various local offices. He was somewhat rigid and eccentric as a teacher, and is well remembered by some of the elderly people.

Among early families that were here for a short time only are remembered: The Moores, the Wheelers, the Beebes, the Leavenworths, the Ingrams.

*Thomas Elliott* established himself in the mercantile business, near the corner of Main and Pine streets, in 1821. He was for sometime associated with Wm. Keeler, and afterwards with Hiram Mercur. Here, in 1846, the Hon. Joseph Powell took his first lessons in the mercantile art. Mr.

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\* O. D. Bartlett, Esq., who is good authority, states that the building was so called from the fact that it was purchased of Mr. Brown by the County Commissioners.

Elliott was a prominent merchant of the town for many years. He built a spacious mansion in the southern part of the village, where he died in affluence in 1868, aged 76 years. His aged widow and son, Edward T., occupy the homestead. Mr. Elliott was the first president of the old Towanda bank. He was a man of strict integrity, and never intentionally did any man a wrong. He praised the industrious but despised cant and arrogance.

*Theodore Geroulds* (1822), a blacksmith, lived on Water street for awhile.

*Col. Hiram Mix* came to Towanda in 1822 from Myersburg, where he had been a merchant, purchased a lot of John Stowers and opened a store in partnership with his brother, St. John Mix, where the Citizens National Bank now is.

St. John Mix subsequently moved to Illinois and died there.

Col. Hiram Mix closed his days in Towanda. His children were—William, Harry, Hiram, Amelia (Mrs. D. F. Barstow), Emeline (Mrs. Dr. Huston), Elizabeth (Mrs. Jno. F. Means), Matilda (Mrs. Jos. Kingsbury), Ellen (Mrs. St. John Mix). Of these Harry, Amelia and Matilda are still living.

William was the father of John W. Mix, Esq., of Towanda.

*Nathaniel N. Betts*, the father of N. N. Betts, cashier of the First National Bank of Towanda, came from Oxford, N. Y., in about 1820 to officiate as clerk for Gurdon Hewett, with whom he subsequently became a partner. After Mr. Hewett removed to Owego, he sent Jos. D. Montanye to

Towanda as his clerk, who finally became a partner in the concern. Mr. Hewett subsequently sold his interest to the other two, and the firm became Betts & Montanye. They were for several years one of the principal firms of Towanda, and occupied the corner\* of Court and Main streets, where P. L. Decker now is. Mr. Betts married a daughter of Esquire Means, and after her death he married Miss Eliza (Clark), daughter of Dr Adonijah Warner of Wyocon, which union was blessed by the birth of Eliza Ellen (Mrs. Dr. H. C. Porter) and Nathaniel Noble. Mr. Betts was in his later years, a magistrate, and scrupulously honest in his official relations. He died in 1875 at the age of 76 years. Mrs. Betts (born Sept. 20, 1804) survives her husband and is an interesting and accomplished lady, still in possession of an active mind

*Benjamin Hunt* (1822) kept a cake, beer and confectionery establishment on the ground now occupied by DeWitt & Decker's livery stables, on State street, and afterwards had a grocery on Court street, between the Presbyterian Church and Frost's Sons ware-rooms.

*Stephen Hiatt* (1824), a blacksmith, lived where J. A. Record's house now is. Among other things he was somewhat noted as a musician, and was the sole violinist of the neighborhood. During slack times he was wont to go a-fishing with a neighbor, Munger, a fact which being observed by the poet of the town, gave rise to the following doggerel :

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\* On the same lot, in 1822, E. Mason put up a store building. At that time this was considered the most valuable lot in the place, being valued at \$100.

“ I’ll neither work your iron or steel,  
 Nor will I die with hunger ;  
 I’ll take my pole upon my back  
 - And go along with Munger.”

*Dr. John N. Weston* was born in Norwich, Conn., Feb. 12, 1794. He made his advent into the county in the winter of 1813-14, instructing in the art of penmanship, but remained only until the following spring. Afterwards, he studied medicine and began practicing at Huntington, Luzerne Co., Pa., where in 1822, he was joined in marriage with Miss Mary Dodson, a distant relative of Benjamin Franklin. In the autumn of 1823 Mr. Weston came to Towanda, “ where he soon acquired an extensive practice and a large circle of personal friends, which his amenity of manners in all his personal and professional intercourse was well calculated to increase. Wholly unselfish in his disposition, instead of coldly performing his professional *duties*, it seemed rather a work of love for him to alleviate the ills of others. He never spared his strength or health, or avoided exposure to wet or cold, when a suffering patient needed his aid—never refusing to attend a call when able to reach his patient. In this way he early made inroads upon his health, and by slow degrees undermined his constitution, which left him for the last few years of his life subject to continued attacks of illness.

“ It may be safely said that there has seldom, if ever, been a physician more attentive to his patients, more kind and prudent, and withal more successful. Actuated by the disposition to see the community in which he lived prosperous,



he always took a deep interest in anything calculated to advance the public good, and was a zealous advocate of every kind of public improvement. Unselfish in everything, he would sooner suffer inconvenience himself than *ask* pay to the inconvenience of others for professional services rendered." Dr. Weston had scores of friends and as a proof of his personal popularity it will not be amiss to state that in 1842 he was made the Whig candidate for Sheriff and elected by a handsome majority over Chester Thomas, the Democratic and majority candidate. He spent the last years of his life in a house still standing and occupied, east of Main street and north of "Weston," so called in his honor. The death of this kind and noble-hearted man occurred March 12, 1848, and his remains were interred in "Riverside Cemetery." Mrs. Weston (born June 17, 1798,) is still living and retains her mental and physical vigor to a remarkable degree. She resides at Weston Station with a maiden daughter (Martha). Dr. Weston reared an intelligent family. Mary married O. D. Bartlett, and Eliza, Dr. Madill, of Wysox. *Henry* for several years practiced dentistry at Towanda and was one of the first in the profession. He went to Philadelphia a few years ago where he is still a practitioner, and engaged in the manufacture of spring goods of his own invention. His inventive genius has added a number of valuable improvements to dentistry. *Dorsey* practiced law for a time in Wisconsin, and upon the breaking out of the war entered the 7th Wisconsin Volunteers and served his country faithfully for three years. He is at present residing at Weston.

*Geo. W. Cash*, son of Capt. Isaac Cash, one of the first

settlers into Athens and Ulster, came to Towanda in 1822 and entered into partnership with Morris Spalding in the tanning business, which was continued under the firm name of Spalding & Cash for five years. They purchased of the Vandikes. Mr. Cash afterwards went to Texas, and enlisted in the war for Texan Independence. He was captured by the Mexicans and put to death in cold blood by orders of Santa Anna.

*Gen. William Patton*, a native of Mifflin county, Pa., and lawyer by profession, came to Towanda in 1823. Mr. Patton was a magistrate, and held at successive periods clerkships in the State Senate, and in the United States War and Navy Departments, and General Land-Office, and also in the United States Senate, serving in the last body for more than a quarter of a century. He was a Captain in the Militia, and in 1833 was elected Major-General, and at the age of sixty-five volunteered for the defense of Washington against an expected attack during the late Rebellion. He was a prominent member of the order of Good Templars, and, in 1872, was one of the Presidential electors on the National Temperance ticket, and for two years was D. D. G. W. C. T. for Bradford county. In 1866 he was a delegate to the National Conservative Union Convention, and is the author of an essay on the "Relative Status of the White and Colored Races of Mankind," arguing for their separate creations, and consequent disunity. He was also a somewhat leading member of the Patrons of Husbandry, and for two years was President of the Bradford County Historical Society. Gen. Patton married, first, the eldest daughter of

Reuben Hale, and for his second wife Mrs. Ann J. Gai, of Washington, D. C. Mrs. J. J. Griffith is a daughter, and the Hon. Jos. G. Patton, a son, he having derived his title by having been a Senatorial Delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1872 to revise the organic law of the State, where he had the honor of introducing the present system of an indorsed and numbered ballot, which affords a ready means of detecting and preventing fraud. Gen. Patton died in 1877, at a little more than 78 years.

*James McClintock*, a young man of superior ability, came to Towanda in 1824 to read law with his uncle, Ethan Baldwin. His first plea before a jury was in the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Hall, for an aggravated assault on James P. Bull, editor of the *Bradford Settler*, in which he displayed great oratorical powers. His poetic genius was also more than medium. He settled in Wilkes-Barre. Death robbed him at once of a loved wife, which together with the loss of a large property and political defeat, unbalanced a brilliant intellect, and the darkness of insanity settled on him forever, momentary gleams of the sunlight of reason only rendering the gloom more fearful.

*Dr. Caleb W. Miles*, of whom a notice has been given elsewhere, was the first permanent resident physician of Towanda.

*James Gilson*, a cabinet-maker, established himself in business at Towanda in 1824. He lived about where Henry Porter now does, and had a cabinet shop nearly on the line between the late Jas. Macfarlane and D'A. Overton.

*Jared Downing Goodenough* was born in Guilford, Wind-

ham county, Vermont, March 7, 1792. He first came to Towanda in 1824, from Oxford, Chenango county, N. Y. He was a saddler and harness maker by trade and carried on the business here for several years and also followed general merchandising. In 1835 he was elected Justice of the Peace and held the office consecutively for seventeen years. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church and one of the earlier and advanced members of Union Lodge, A. Y. M. Always an active and enterprising citizen, doing whatever he might to enhance the growth and prosperity of the village. He died Jan. 6, 1874, in his 82d year, and his remains are interred in Riverside Cemetery. In 1825 he was united in marriage with Sybil, daughter of the late Daniel Brown, of Wyalusing, who yet survives him, being in her 81st year. Seven children were the fruits of this marriage, but three of whom are now living—one on Staten Island, N. Y., one in Massachusetts, and one in Towanda.

For a period covering some five years from 1817, Mr. Goodenough was in the West, making his head-quarters at St. Louis. For a time he was in the employ of the North American Fur Company, and made frequent trips by boat up the Illinois River, purchasing furs and skins of the Indians. Chicago in those days was but a hamlet. His dealings were principally with two tribes of Indians—the Kickapoos and Pottawatomies—by much intercourse with whom he acquired their dialect, and could speak it fluently until his death. Many a lad, who is now perhaps a grandfather, will remember with what interest he was wont to listen to

the divers adventures with the Indians 'Squire Goodenough had and used to relate. Mr. Goodenough was of the party that escorted Gen. Lafayette from St. Louis to New Orleans on the occasion of his last visit to America. By exposure and malarial influences, Mr. Goodenough contracted the fever and ague and was advised by his physician to seek another climate. Accordingly, he disposed of his possessions at a sacrifice, owning several hundred acres of valuable land on what was known as the "American Bottom," near St. Louis, and made the trip from that city to Oxford, N. Y., on horseback.

—Of the ancestry of Mr. Goodenough, his great-grandfather of that name emigrated from England when a young man and settled in the new colony of Massachusetts at a place since called Old Marlborough, where his grandfather and father, Artemas Goodenough, were born. His grandfather and family were of the pioneers that settled in Vermont, a tract of country lying west of the Connecticut river, then densely inhabited by bears, catamounts, wolves, deer, &c., said tract of country being claimed by both Massachusetts and New York. His grandfather, Ithamar Goodenough, was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War, but had command of a company in Col. Benjamin Ruggles Woodbridge's regiment, 25th Regiment of Foot in the Continental Army, in 1775, and was at the taking of Burgoyne. He died in Guilford, Vt., in 1777, aged 63. His wife was named Smith when a girl, had three husbands and died a Smith.

J. D. Goodenough's mother was one Margaret Magoon,

of Scottish descent. Her people settled in Ware, Mass. His father and mother were both born in 1763, his father dying at the age of 84, and his mother at 89 years, 11 months and 7 days.\* They are both buried in Brookfield, Madison county, N. Y. They had four children, Artemas, Eliza, Jared, (the subject of this sketch), and Asenath.

*O. D. Goodenough*, son of Jared and a well-known resident of Towanda, for many years has been connected with journalism. He wields an able, fluent and versatile pen and in a manner that is pleasing. In 1859, the *Bradford Herald* was published by Chase & Goodenough; in 1871 the *Towanda Business Item* by Goodenough and Clauson. Subsequently Mr. Goodenough founded the *Mansfield Advertiser*. He was for some time local editor of the *Wellsboro Gazette*, and was also connected with the *Blossburg Register*.

*The Bartletts* were originally Normans, their history dating back to the times of "William the Conqueror," in whose army one of them was knighted. Ebenezer Bartlett, the ancestor of the family in Bradford county, was a Revolutionary patriot, and was among the freemen who struck the first blow for liberty at Lexington. His home was at Brookline, a suburb town of Boston.

*Daniel Bartlett*, a son of Ebenezer, and brother-in-law of David and George Scott, having received flattering reports from the Susquehanna Valley of the "Keystone State," in the fall of 1824 started with his family from Berkshire Co., Mass., for Bradford county. Upon arriving at Towanda, there being no vacant houses, he went up to Fowlertown

where he remained until the following spring, then returned to Towanda and took up rooms with the Widow Whitehead.

To establish himself in some kind of business was now a matter of most concern. In "Yankee land" for many years he had been a deputy sheriff, and hence was quite unfitted for the more arduous callings in a new country. Accordingly the "Tiger Hotel"\* was purchased of Jesse Woodruff, which Mr. Bartlett continued to keep till about 1840, when he retired from active life. Mr. Bartlett was a man especially noted for his generosity and true kindness of heart. He was born in Massachusetts, March 9, 1783; died at Towanda, May 6, 1864. His wife, Jane Scott Bartlett, was born in Connecticut, June 13, 1791; died at Towanda, Nov. 27, 1871. *Orrin D. Bartlett*, of whom a notice is elsewhere given, is a son; *Harriet A.* (Mrs. Dr. Uriah Scott) and *Charlotte*, deceased, daughters.

*Col. James P. Bull* came to Towanda from Ohio in 1823 and edited the *Bradford Settler*, then the sole organ of the Democratic party in the county. He was a man of marked ability, a leader in politics, ranking only second to Gen. McKean, and an able editor. In fact, he and Gen. McKean controlled the politics of the Democratic party in the county for some time. As an editor he was tasteful, energetic, displaying great talent, but was impetuous and scathing in his denunciations of political candidates and parties. For awhile he held a clerkship in the Treasury Department at Washington. He was Colonel of the Fifteenth regiment, ninth division of Pennsylvania militia, and at one of the trainings

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\* So called from the painting of a tiger upon the sign.

of the regiment inaugurated a sham battle, in imitation of Indian warfare, which was a most interesting feature. Mr. Bull married a Miss Nancy Wallace, of Williamsport, who was a sister of Judge Ellis Lewis's wife.

*Anna*, a daughter of Col. J. P. Bull, married O. H. Platt, present U. S. Senator from Connecticut, who at one time taught in the old academy at Towanda.

*George*, a son, is an eminent lawyer at Philadelphia, and ex-member of the State Legislature. He was a candidate for Congress against Wm. D. Kelley, but was defeated.

The Colonel died at Towanda, June 29, 1842, aged nearly 40 years and is buried at Riverside. Mrs. Bull afterwards removing to Connecticut, where she resided with her daughter.

*David M. Bull*, brother of James P., settled in Towanda in 1824. He was an assistant editor of the *Bradford Settler*, a merchant and mail contractor. During the Rebellion he was a sutler in the Union army and was a prisoner in Libby for three months. Through the influence of Senator Cameron, he secured a position in the Custom House at New Orleans, at which place he died. He was County Treasurer from 1835 to 1837.

*George H. Bull*, also brother of James P., came to Towanda in 1824. He was a merchant for a time, and took an active part in the affairs of the borough. He was a man of stern integrity and was elected a Justice of the Peace. In about 1835 he purchased what is known as the McCord property at Highland, which he afterwards sold and purchased an interest in what is commonly known as Hale's



Mills. He was a man of fine judgment and served one term as County Commissioner. Having disposed of his property at Hale's, he removed to Newark, N. J., where he died in 1880, but was brought back to Towanda for burial—the Towanda Lodge of Free Masons, of which he had formerly been Master, performing the funeral rites. He was twice married and had a large family of children. Gurdon L., and Walter Bull of Monroeton are sons.

*Nathan Bull*, father of James, George and David, went from Saybrook, Conn., to Ohio, thence removed to Towanda in 1824. He died at Hale's.

*Elinas Beebe*, a hatter, located in Towanda in 1823, and *Elnathan Beebe*, who followed the same avocation, in 1825.

*William Flatt*, a carpenter, came to Towanda in 1823; married a daughter of Wm. Keeler and finally removed West.

*Francis Delpuech*, born at Geneva, Switzerland, and a gentleman of culture, educated in French, in 1824 chose the quietude of Towanda to spend the residue of his days, and accordingly purchased the Oliver Newell property. He was a skillful artist, and had a great passion for flowers, which he took pride in cultivating. Mr. and Mrs. Delpuech were estimable personages. An only daughter married *William Dittrich*, a native of Saxony, Germany. He was educated in the music schools of Germany and Paris, and served for a time in the French army, during which time he was sent with a governmental opera troupe to the West Indies and South America. Returning to France, he soon after sailed for America, landed at Philadelphia, joined a

theatrical troupe and came to Towanda in the Autumn of 1848. He afterwards joined Welch's circus, which after a few months he left, and returned to Towanda, where he has since resided.

*Hon. George Tracy*, son of Solomon Tracy, a Revolutionary soldier and early settler into Ulster (1787), came to Towanda in 1824, and engaged in the mercantile business, his brother, Hon. H. W. Tracy, of Standing Stone, being associated with him. His store was where the residence of D'A. Overton now is. Mr. Tracy moved to Monroeton in 1832.

*Wm. D. Van Horn*, a carpenter, and *Curtis Frink*, a blacksmith, were added to the populace of the town in 1824.

*David Cash*, a nephew and law-partner of Simon Kinney, began the practice of his profession at Towanda in 1825. He was elected Prothonotary of the county in 1839, and was a candidate for the State Senate, but was defeated by Hon. Samuel Morris, of Luzerne county. Mr. Cash was interested in the construction of the North Branch Canal, and also of the Barclay Railroad. He built a fine residence on the corner of Third and Poplar streets, on the south side of the latter, and there lived until the time of his death in 1864, aged 70 years. His wife "Mary Ann Spencer" died in 1883, at the age of 77 years. The children of David and Mary A. Cash were: George, Charles, Fred, Louise, (Mrs. James Wood,) and Mary (Mrs. H. S. Griswold). David Cash was brother of George W. Cash.

*Alvah Kellogg*, a blacksmith, began business in Towanda,

in 1825. He married a daughter of Noah Spalding and lived where A. Snell now does.

*Orlo I. Hamlin*, artist, took up his abode in the Davis Vandyke house, where Dr. Pratt's residence now is, in 1825. He painted pictures, miniatures, etc.

*Warren Jenkins*, grocer, began business in Towanda in 1825. He subsequently engaged in journalism.

*Gilbert H. Drake*, wagon-maker, located at Towanda in 1825. He had his shop on the ground now occupied by Jas. McCabe's residence, his house standing where the M. E. church now is. Benjamin Spees was associated with him for awhile. Drake afterwards built a house and shop on the ground now occupied by Humphrey Bros. & Tracy. He removed to Montrose in 1866.

*Hon. David F. Barstow*, a native of Litchfield Co., Conn., who had studied law at Albany, N. Y., and was admitted to practice in 1821, came to Towanda in 1825. He was a gentleman of letters, a graduate of Union College, and began life in Towanda as a teacher. For many years he was a magistrate and did an extensive business in connection with collecting. He also practiced at the bar. Mr. Barstow was a man held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen and was honored by them with various local offices of responsibility and trust, and served the county in the lower branch of the State Legislature from 1838 to 1840. He was an active, pious and devoted member of the Episcopal church, and stood prominent in its councils, and was a ready supporter of both church and school interests.

Mr. Barstow married a daughter of Col. Hiram Mix, who

yet survives him and occupies the homestead. He died in 1859, aged 63 years. To Mr. and Mrs. Barstow were born three children—*David Henry*, who removed to Maryland; *Henrietta*, the wife of Dr. T. B. Johnson, of Towanda; *Caroline*, who lives with her mother.

Hon. D. F. Barstow was a cousin of Dr. Barstow, of Wysox.

*Amos Mix*, the father of Col. Hiram and St. John, came to Towanda in 1825, and lived with his daughter, Mrs. Isaac Myer.

*William Payson* was a deputy sheriff and lived in the old Court House. He came to the village as early as 1820, moving finally to the State line.

*Byron Kingsbury*, son of Col. Joseph Kingsbury, of Shequon, located in the northern part of the village in 1825, on the farm now owned and occupied by his son, W. W. Kingsbury.

*George Robinson*, a weaver by occupation, settled (1825) in the upper part of the village. He was familiarly known as "Robinson Crusoe." Thomas Barnes married a daughter.

*Deacon James Elliott*, a brother of Thomas, kept a grocery and drug store, on the corner of Main and Poplar streets, where Clark B. Porter now is, in 1825. Subsequently Mr. Elliott sold out and removed to Ulster where he remained some years then returned to Towanda to close his years, which almost reached a hundred. See biographical notices.

*Morris Spalding*, a cousin of Col. Harry, lived in To-

wanda for a number of years, first coming thereto as early as 1817. In 1822 he and Geo. W. Cash were associated together in the tanning business, which they continued till about 1827. He was post-master of Towanda in 1822, appointed County Clerk in 1824, and elected County Commissioner in 1834. In 1825, he kept a store and occupied the framed house, near where the new Episcopal Church foundation now is. He afterwards kept a store farther downtown, and finally removed to the State of Illinois with his family.

*Obadiah Spalding*, a brother of Col. Harry, a "méchanic and single freeman" lived in Towanda from 1812 to 1817.

*Noah Spalding*, another brother of Col. Harry, who had been associated with Wm. B. Spalding (a brother) in lumbering on the Towanda Creek, became a villager in about 1822. He built a tavern on the east side of the river, a little north of where the bridge approach now is, and kept it in connection with a ferry. He died in 1835, aged 47 years, and is buried at Riverside.

*John A. Spalding* came to Towanda in 1824. He was a carpenter by trade; was elected Constable; and afterwards kept a grocery for some time.

*J. W. and G. K. Bingham* erected a store on the ground where the Presbyterian Church now stands, and began business in 1826.

*Elisha Munger*, a silversmith, or watch repairer, etc., came to the village in 1825. He had a shop where the express office now is.

In 1826 the following were also residents of the village:

Wm. W. Goodrich, "shoemaker;" John Turner, "merchant;" Robert Dunham, "tailor;" Andrew McIntyre; John W. Berger, "wagon-maker." In 1827 were added :

*Charles R. Brown*, a cabinet-maker, had a small shop and continued in business for some time.

*Thomas Polleys*, a shoemaker, became somewhat conspicuous as a fisherman. He had two sons, one of whom at one time edited a paper at Waverly, N. Y.

*Burton Kingsbury* opened a store on the ground now occupied by E. F. Dittrich & Co., grocers, where he continued in business for some years, then supplanted the wooden building by a brick one. In 1829 he built a brick residence on the corner of Pine and Main streets, the same now being occupied by the *Review* office, Mrs. Madden's millinery store, etc., and is the oldest standing brick edifice in Towanda. Mr. Kingsbury was a successful business man and amassed a handsome property.

*Edward Overton, Esq.*, father of Col. E. Overton, Jr., in his time one of the most eminent lawyers in the Northern tier, occupied the place of now I. O. Blight. For a further sketch see biographical notices.

*Joseph D. Montanye* came from Owego, N. Y., as a clerk for Gurdon Hewett, and subsequently formed a mercantile partnership with Nathaniel N. Betts, Sr., and engaged in trade at the corner of Main and Court streets, in a frame building erected by Eliphalet Mason. In 1848 Mr. Montanye erected a brick building on the same site, which is now occupied by P. L. Decker. After Mr. Betts, a brother, Elijah, was associated with him for a number of years. For

more than a half-century he did business on the same ground. Mr. Montanye was a very excellent citizen and had scores of friends in the county. He married Miss Maria, daughter of A. C. Rockwell, of Monroe, the first sheriff of the county and a pioneer from Connecticut into the township of his adoption, in 1800. Their children were—Joseph DeLa, Frank DeLa, George DeLa, and Lester DeLa.

*George* was a young man of rare abilities and became a prominent member of the Bradford county bar. He was elected District Attorney in 1862 and more recently appointed U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue. As a politician he was eminently successful, and was, moreover, a gentleman of refined taste and extensive literary attainments.

The Montanye family were originally Huguenots. They fled from France to Holland, at the time of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and came from Holland with the Dutch, in the early settlement of New Amsterdam, and took a prominent part in founding what is now New York City. One of the family was Governor of New Amsterdam in its early history. Others held high positions of trust both in church and State.

The grandfather of Joseph Montanye was frequently employed by Gen. Washington, during the Revolutionary war, as bearer of dispatches and in other confidential relations. Ex-Sheriff Layton occupies the Montanye homestead. Mr. Montanye died May 18, 1880, aged 78 years; and Mrs. Montanye Aug. 31, 1881, at the age of 72.

*Cornelius Judson* was associated for a time with his father-in-law, Wm. Keeler, in the mercantile business.

*Dr. Samuel C. Huston*, a native of Essex county, Mass., and graduate of Dartmouth College and the Boston medical school under the celebrated Dr. Fowler, first began the practice of medicine at New Londonderry, N. H., where he remained until he came to Towanda (1827). He became eminent in his profession, and was called to the sick bed for miles around. He was a man of great firmness, integrity of purpose and strong likes and dislikes. He was unswervingly a Democrat in politics and prominently identified with the Masonic fraternity. Dr. Huston married Miss Emeline, daughter of Col. Hiram Mix. He died May 20, 1856, aged 60 years. A son occupies a part of the homestead on York Avenue. Huston street was so called in his honor.

*William W. Goodrich* (1826) came in from the State of New York to take charge of the tanning interests of Geo. Kirby (father of Job), who for a time had a tannery on the bank of the river, near the west end of the old dam. He engaged in shoe-making and in the sale of merchandise. After some years he removed to Wysox, where he died. He was the grandfather of Dr. Reed.

The following citizens were added to Towanda in 1828:

*Jesse Taylor*, a house painter and chair-maker by occupation.

*Jacob Whitman*, a tailor, and man of much activity.

*Perrin Wells*, also a tailor, had a shop where G. M. Clark's place of business now is.

*Edward F. Young*, this year, started the first foundry at Towanda. It was operated by horse-power, and stood on



the bank of the river just above State street. Spencer Goodale, in a couple of years, became the owner of the property. Mr. Young subsequently built up an extensive business at Monroeton.

*George Wansey*, an Englishman of culture and considerable landed estate, was a resident of the county seat for several years. He was a Christian gentleman of great benevolence. So addicted was he to his native country that he never became a naturalized citizen of the United States. Mrs. Wansey was an English lady of paragon amiability. She moved with her husband to Genesee Falls, N. Y.

Additions made in 1829:

*Samuel Gordon*, a saddler and harness-maker, was a resident of the village for several years.

*Pliny Nichols* was assistant county clerk, then engaged in business where the Ward House now stands. He died in 1832, and his widow subsequently married Dr. Hiram Rice.

*Zenas and Benjamin Thomas*, cousins, and hatters by occupation, were successors to Henry Mercur. The latter, especially, was a man of remarkable natural talents. His children were exceptionally bright, and he that was familiarly known as "Little Ben Thomas" in Towanda more than thirty years ago, is to-day that clear-headed gentleman, of noble manhood, who has the general superintendency of the N. Y., Lake Erie & Western Railroad. Much to his credit, he earned his place by his sterling integrity, perseverance, care and punctuality in business, having begun his career as a poor boy.

*Hon. Ellis Lewis* was one of the stars who have been resi-

dents of Towanda. In 1832 he was a volunteer candidate for the State Legislature, being indorsed by the Independent Democrats and National Republicans, and was elected over the regular Democratic nominee. He was a bright and able mind, and at the time of his practice at our county seat was conceded the ablest lawyer of the Bradford county bar. While in the State Legislature he made an excellent record, and displayed superior judgment, making him so conspicuous in the State, that he was soon after chosen Attorney-General. Subsequently he became President Judge of the several courts of Lancaster county, and in 1851 was elected to the bench of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, becoming Chief Justice, Jan. 5, 1855. As a lawyer and jurist he ranked among the foremost, and leaves a bright page on the judicial history of the "Keystone State." He spent the last years of his life in Philadelphia, where he left a fine fortune. His Towanda home was the house now occupied by Mrs. Barstow.

*William Watkins*, born in Windsor county, Vermont, chose law as his profession, studied and was admitted to the bar in Montpelier in 1825. In 1828 he married Almira Hulett, and soon after removed to Towanda. He gave himself immediately to the practice of his profession, never engaging in speculation, and only participating in the passing questions of the day, when he considered a moral principle to be involved. His keen perception of character and motive, and persistency of purpose, secured him, in time, a reputation for shrewdness as a lawyer, and the integrity of mind, that was a distinguishing trait, gave him an undis-

puted claim to the confidence of his clients and the respect of his neighbors and friends. Mr. Watkins was a man of strong convictions, and of such as did not always lead into avenues of popularity. He identified himself with the earliest Abolition movements in the county, when a single old colored man, familiarly known as "Black Henry," was his main ally. Years later, in the interval of which history was verifying the correctness of his sympathies, his eldest son, Lieutenant-Colonel Guy H. Watkins, who had early enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, fell in the fruitless charge before Petersburg, June 18, 1864. An instinct of tenderness towards the unprotected or unfortunate made him a loving as well as watchful parent and husband, and a friend that could be relied on in adversity. Remembering the difficulties he had himself when obliged to overcome, as a stranger, in a State with whose laws he was unfamiliar, he invariably evinced a kindly interest in the young men of the profession. Mr. Watkins died in the home he had inhabited nearly fifty years, Sept. 12, 1877, aged 75 years. Mrs. Watkins died Feb. 9, 1879, at the age of 72. Their children were two sons, Guy H., William H., and two daughters, who married respectively, Hon. W. T. Davies and H. L. L'Amoureux.

Increase from 1830 to '31, inclusive :

*Wm. T. Buttrie* manufactured chairs, bed-steads, etc., for several years and did a good business. He had his shop on the bank of the river, between State and Pine streets.

*Nathaniel Eaton*, a chair-maker, was associated first with James Gillson and afterwards with Chas. R. Brown.

*William Foley* attended ferry for Mr. Kelly. Mrs. Foley was the village laundress, and introduced paper collars among the young men.

*Hamlet A. Kerr* for two years edited and published the *Bradford Settler*.

*Seth W. Paine* engaged in the mercantile trade until 1835, when he sold out and went to Troy, where he did an extensive business, which gave a great impetus to the growth of that town. Mr. Paine has been a man of much enterprise, and is yet living at Troy at an advanced age. He is a man of a noble Christian character.

*Capt. Nicholas Hentz*, a native of France, landed in this country in 1816 and settled in Wilkes-Barre, and learned the tinner's trade, whence he removed to Towanda (1830). He served as a captain in the French army under Napoleon I., in the Imperial Guard, and afterwards in regiments of the line, from 1806 to the downfall of the emperor, but did not resign his commission until he accompanied his father to the United States. His father (Nicholas Hentz) was a member of the National Assembly of France during the Revolution of 1792, and belonged to the party of the Mountain, and was a colleague of Robespierre and St. Just. He was on the legislative committee, and assisted in compiling the code of laws known as the "Code Napoleon." After the death of Robespierre he was proscribed by the convention and sentenced to imprisonment for life in the Castle of Harm, but lived in concealment, under the assumed name of Arnold for a number of years, and thus eluded being captured. Having cast his vote for the death of Louis XVI., he was

excepted from the general amnesty on the restoration of the Bourbons, and was ordered to leave France in thirty days; and accordingly, with all his family except one son, who remained in Paris, on the 21st of January, 1816—the day on which Louis XVI. was beheaded—he sailed from Havre for the United States.

Capt. Hentz followed his trade in Towanda for a few years, then removed to Huntsville, Ala., where he died. He was an uncle of the authoress, Caroline Lee Hentz.

*Hiram Rice* learned the printer's trade with J. P. Bull, and from 1833 to 1835 was editor and proprietor of the *Northern Banner*. He studied medicine and removed to Rome where he practiced until the time of his demise. A son, Dr. Wm. Rice, succeeds him, and ranks high in the medical profession. Mrs. Rice is an accomplished lady and is yet living at an advanced age.

*James Warford* was a wagon-maker of the village for a number of years. In his younger days he had read all the popular tales, and took great pride in rehearsing them to the village lads.

*Nehemiah J. Keeler* followed clerking for a number of years in Towanda. He married a daughter of Jesse Taylor.

*A. C. Steadman*, for a time a resident of the borough, was a cabinet-maker.

*John E. Geiger*, a gunsmith, came from Elmira to Towanda in 1830 and started the first regular gun shop in the town and perhaps in the county. He was a thorough and skillful workman and continued at his trade until 1858, when he was succeeded by his son, J. V. Geiger, popularly known as

"Boss Geiger," who is still engaged in the same business. Mr. Geiger purchased a desirable property in East Towanda, where he spent his closing days.

*Elisha S. Goodrich*, the founder of the *Bradford Porter*, or *Reporter*, who was one of the most prominent and useful citizens of the county, made Towanda his home for many years. In another part of this work will be found a biographical sketch of him and his son, E. O. Goodrich.

*William Smalley* began blacksmithing in the village in 1832; subsequently sold to his brother Isaac and removed to Ulster.

*Lyman H. Hodges* kept an "inn" in 1832 where the Ward House now stands.

*Mark C. Arnout* came as a tanner (1832) and finally bought out Andrew Irvine. After some years he removed to Granville township and engaged in farming.

*Eli Beard* began selling goods on the corner now occupied by Stevens & Long in 1833. He finally moved to Troy and re-engaged in the same business.

*Neely & Shoemaker* came to Towanda in the same year as Beard, and kept a store where Decker Bros. now are; *Geo. W. Miles*, in 1833, was engaged in watch-making and repairing; *John Savage* was a hatter; *Edward Watts*, a tailor; *Charles Tousey*, a saddler; *Geo. A. Mix* (brother of Col. Hiram) a teacher; *Thomas Shiply*, a tailor; *Nathan Tuttle*, a shoemaker, who afterwards built a hotel on the ground now occupied by the Presbyterian Church.

*Elijah Montanye* came as a clerk for his brother, Joseph D., and was finally a partner with him. He was also alone

in the mercantile trade, and had a second store at Monroeton. In addition to the sale of goods he did quite an extensive lumbering business on Towanda Creek. Mr. Montanye was a wide-awake business man, kind and affable in his intercourse with others. His frank and genial manner, his hearty greeting and his cordial grasp, won the affection and secured the friendship of all who met him. He was benevolent without ostentation, and his charities were willing offerings, which blessed alike the giver and recipient. In all his dealings he was honest, upright in all his actions and remarkably remindful of the rights and feelings of others. He had an acquaintance with the citizens of the county that was intimate and general. His demise occurred May 7, 1851, in the 51st year of his age. He married Miss Celinda Griffis, who survives him. An only daughter is the wife of D'A. Overton, Esq.

*Hon. William Elwell* took up his residence at the county seat in 1833, and became one of the most distinguished members of the Bradford county bar. He is a man of fine abilities, thoroughly versed in all the technicalities of the law, and "could talk to the Court, while Wilmot could talk to the jury." Judge Elwell removed from Towanda to Bloomsburg, Columbia Co., Pa., and was unanimously chosen President Judge of the 26th Judicial District, a place of honor which he still fills. He ranks with the ablest jurists of the State, and his decisions are held in esteem by the foremost lawyers. Judge Elwell is a gentleman of unimpeachable character, and in his profession and out of it, has always been fair. His life is an example worthy the

emulation of any young man of true grit. Beginning life's struggles, unaided, through his own exertions, he reached the place of honor, which he has ably sustained. His old home in Towanda is occupied by his son, Ephraim Elwell.

*Isaac Smalley* succeeded his brother, William, (1833) and is still a resident of the town. He is the father of Rev. Frank Smalley, of Syracuse University, a gentleman entitled to much credit for his accomplishments. Beginning his struggles in life unaided, he earned money, educated himself, graduating at the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute, and Syracuse University with honors. At the latter institution he is professor of languages, and is an author of several text-books of merit on the classics.

*Joseph Kingsbury, Jr.*, son of Col. Jos. Kingsbury, has been a resident of the county town since a school boy. He was first associated with his brother, Burton, then engaged in the general mercantile business, alone, with also the sale of books and stationery, continuing until the beginning of the Rebellion. He was then appointed Deputy Collector of U. S. Internal Revenue, a capacity in which he acted for fourteen years, proving a most efficient and trustworthy official. Mr. Kingsbury is a gentleman of a high sense of honor, and is held in esteem by his fellow-townsmen. As an evidence of his worth and popularity, it is befitting to state, that since 1873 he has been chosen successively borough Treasurer and Secretary.

*Enos Tompkins*, a native of New York City and near relative of Daniel D. Tompkins, Vice-President during Monroe's first term, came from the South to what is now



the pleasant village of Rome, in about 1823. He purchased the lands now embraced in the lower half of that borough, built a fine residence—the Judge Passmore house—and established a factory for the manufacture of clock cases, under the firm name of *Tompkins, Fuller & Co.* The enterprise was a great benefit to the surrounding country, as it gave a home market for lumber, and always paid cash. Like enterprises were established by the company in the West, Canada, and other places, and kept in operation at the same time.

In 1834 Mr. Tompkins sold out his interests in Rome to his brother-in-law, Lucius Fuller, and came to Towanda and purchased the property now owned by B. M. Peck, A. J. Layton, *et al.* He built and occupied the Layton residence—in its time counted the handsomest in the county. Upon locating at the county-seat, he built a factory on the bank of the river, between Park and State streets, for the manufacture of bedsteads. He had the sole right of manufacturing the old wooden screw rollers. After continuing this business for about four years, he and Thomas Elliott purchased a large strip of land in the southern part of the borough, and he erected a large establishment for the manufacture of chairs and bedsteads, on the ground now occupied by the Eureka buildings. The business gave a considerable impetus to the prosperity of the town, and did much for the surrounding community. In about 1842 the institution was converted into a foundry and agricultural implement factory, which he continued for several years then sold to L'Amoureux Bros. After this he turned his attention to the

sale of his real estate in the village. Besides the property already mentioned, he owned the greater part of the land lying between Lombard and State streets, and extending from Main street back to the "old convent." Having disposed of his property, he went to Belvidere, Ill., purchased a number of acres where the city now is, and there died a little more than a year since, in affluence at an advanced age. Mr. Tompkins was a man of active business habits, sterling integrity and sagacity. He was one of the founders and managers of the old Towanda Bank, and was for many years President of the Towanda Bridge Company. His enterprise did more for the up-building of Towanda, in his time, than that of any other one man. Mr. Tompkins was a highly respected citizen and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

*Dr. E. R. Utter*, formerly a resident of Columbia, came to Towanda in 1834, and edited and published the *Bradford Argus*.

Others who came to Towanda in 1834 were—H. L. Kingsbury, painter; Daniel Miller, blacksmith; G. H. Bunting, tailor; Silas Noble, lawyer; Edward Young, a native of England, and father of Prothonotary Young, came to the village previously, and in 1839 moved to Columbia.

In 1835-36 the following names were added to the assessment list of Towanda:

John C. Adams, lawyer; Sheldon S. Bradley; J. M. Chilson, silversmith; Hogan & Gantine, printers; G. H. Dalriddle, tailor; Jno R. Eaton, shoemaker; Jno. Frost, shoemaker; Abram Goodwin, merchant; — Johnson, silver-

smith ; Dummer Lilley, printer ; Jno. Lockwood, blacksmith ; Clement Paine, merchant ; Page & Ellsworth, merchants ; Isaac H. Ross, shoemaker (also kept hotel) ; Isaac C. Ray, barber ; Jonathan R. Coolbaugh ; Wm. B. Storm, cashier of Towanda bank ; R. B. Stewart, merchant ; Richard Wheeler, grocer ; Edward White, merchant ; David Wilmot, lawyer ; Richard Wright, hatter ; Jabez Wright, hatter ; Geo. Williams, tailor.

Names added in 1837 :

Bottom & Scott, bridge builders ; Thomas Black, shoemaker ; V. H. Bruce, cabinet maker ; William E. Barton, constable ; S. S. Bailey, merchant ; Jeremiah Culp, saddler ; Edmund S. Castle, merchant ; E. S. Clark, grocer ; A. M. Coe, inn-keeper ; Thomas Coombs, shoemaker ; A. S. Chamberlain, Commissioners' clerk ; John Decker, shoemaker ; — Harkness, grocer ; L. L. Hancock, shoemaker ; James P. Kinsman ; J. P. Lawrence ; Adonijah Moody, butcher ; Jno. Morris, carpenter ; James Matoon, brickmaker ; — O'Grady ; Amos Pennypacker, tailor ; Samuel Riley, blacksmith ; Nicholas Shoemaker, of the firm of Neely & Shoemaker ; Seth Steel, barber ; Elkanah Smith, saddler ; H. H. Seely, fork-maker ; Charles Shockey, baker ; Rial Taylor, blacksmith ; Geo. H. Taylor, grocer ; Daniel Vandercook, cabinet-maker ; John Wilson, bedstead manufacturer ; Sterling W. Wells, blacksmith ; Henry Yontz, tailor.

Names added in 1838 :

E. F. Bliven, wagon-maker ; Hiram Beech, printer ; Allen S. Burnham, inn-keeper ; R. R. Carpenter, crockery merchant ; John Carman, foundryman ; Luke Gillespie ; Fran-

cis Heath, blacksmith ; J. P. Kirby & Co.; Isaac W. Loveland ; James Nestor, grocer ; Ralph Peters ; G. W. Row, baker ; Geo. Sanderson, lawyer ; Abram Savercool ; Gilbert Seeman, tailor ; Geo. Stein, blacksmith ; Wm. Shephard, grocer ; Patrick Slain, grocer ; C. Sullivan, shoemaker ; O. R. Tyler, merchant ; Hugh O'Hara, grocer.

Names added in 1839 :

Henry Butler ; John Britton, butcher ; Abram Brads, wagon-maker ; Thomas Barnes ; Josiah Betts, shoemaker ; M. J. Clark, contractor ; Wm. Chamberlin, silversmith ; A. F. Day, cooper ; Henry Essenwine, blacksmith ; Gabriel Eldridge, hatter ; Freeman Fairchild, harness-maker ; John B. Ford, tailor ; E. L. Fuller, printer ; Stephen Hathaway, shoemaker ; James H. Heaton, lawyer ; Harvey Jones, inn-keeper ; H. F. Kellum, clerk ; A. M. Warner, silversmith ; Tracy & Moore, merchants ; Wm. H. Overton ; Ziba Patridge ; Samuel B. Roberts, grocer ; Charles Day, cooper.

Names added in 1840 :

E. W. Baird, attorney ; Miles Carter, merchant ; Coryell, Heylman & Co., dam builders ; John Carter.

Among the most prominent and distinguished personages who have been residents of Towanda since 1840 were the following : Hon. John LaPorte, Christopher L. Ward, Esq., Hon. Chas. R. Coburn, Col. G. F. Mason, James Macfarlane, Esq., Warner H. Carnochan, Esq., Jacob Dewitt, Esq., Col. Abram Edwards, Hon. L. P. Williston, John P. Cox, Rev. Dr. Bennett of Northwestern University, Ill., Rev. Wm. Harris, ex-Treasurer of Princeton College, Rev. Geo. C. Jones, Rev. Dr. L. F. Congdon, E. H. Smith, Wm. H. Per-

kins, B. S. Russell, Hon. Geo. Sanderson, J. C. Adams, Esq., Hon. Chas. M. Turner, M. D., Hon. Isaac Foster, Hon. F. B. Streeter.

#### THE MOST CELEBRATED CHARACTER

Towanda has ever had was the HON. DAVID WILMOT, whose name stands conspicuous among the great men of the Republic. For a sketch of his life see biographical notices.

#### EMINENT CHARACTERS.

*Harry L. Horton*, the New York banker and millionaire, who is without doubt the richest man the county has ever produced, was at one time a clerk in Powell's store. He is the son of William B. and Malinda Blackman Horton, and was born in the town of Sheshequin, July 17, 1832. In all his undertakings he has been eminently successful, and seems to be gifted almost with the "golden touch" in making money. Mr. Horton is a true gentleman, endowed with a kind and generous heart, free from ostentation, never forgetting his former associates who have been less prosperous than he.

*Ex-Governor Henry M. Hoyt* was a law student at Towanda, and a teacher in the old academy with George R. Barker.

*Hon. Orville H. Platt*, U. S. Senator of Connecticut, was at one time principal of the old academy, and married a Towanda belle.

*Hon. Thomas Ryan* was a clerk and law student at Towanda. He was a volunteer of the 141st P. V.; went West at the close of the war; in 1877 was elected to the 45th

Congress and re-elected successively to the 46th, 47th, 48th and 49th Congresses, receiving at his last election nearly twice as many votes as his Democratic competitor. '

*Hon. Ulysses Mercur*, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, has attained a greater distinction than any other person ever born in Towanda.

*Hon. Ellis Lewis, Judge Wm. Elwell, Benjamin Thomas* and others mentioned in this volume, Towanda is very proud to own as having once been citizens.

#### TOWANDA.

##### *Original Names.* '

Upon locating the site of the Court House in 1812, the proprietors laid out the town into lots and streets, which on the original plat was called "OVERTON," and is so called in the deed conveying the public or court house square, and a lot on State street, below Main, for county offices, to "Joseph Kinney, Justus Gaylord and Wm. Myer, Commissioners of the county and their successors in office, in trust for the use of the county," described as being a part of a large tract called "Canewood," and patented to William Kepple, May 17, 1785, who conveys the same to Adam Kuhn, Aug. 24, 1795, and he to Thomas Overton, Oct. 24, 1810, being the tract of land where the stake was stuck for the county town of Bradford county, now called "Overton," containing two acres, more or less.

Efforts were made to call the town MEANSVILLE, in honor of William Means, one of the proprietors, and it generally went by that name for several years. However, many were bitterly opposed to the name, which gave rise to the follow-

ing petition for naming the county town, presented to the Court May 8, 1815 :

“ Upon the petition of the inhabitants of the town plot, laid out for the seat of justice in the county of Bradford, to wit : Simon Kinney, Chas. F. Welles, Harry Spalding, Obadiah Spalding, Ebenezer B. Gregory, Jesse Woodruff, A. C. Stewart, Adam Conly, John E. Kent, Andrew Irwin, Burr Ridgway, and O. A. Holden, all being the said inhabitants—and John Franklin, Julius Tozer, Joseph Kinney, John Saltmarsh, Joseph Kingsbury, David Paine, Michael R. Thorp, Ezra Spalding, Nathaniel Allen, Salmon Bosworth, Edward Herrick, Ethan Baldwin, and other citizens of Bradford county, setting forth that the inhabitants of the town plot aforesaid have *unanimously* selected the name of MONMOUTH for the designation of said town, and that the petitioners have concurred in the adoption of said name, agreeing to introduce it into general and permanent use ; and therefore respectfully request that the Hon. John B. Gibson and his Associate Judges permit the petition to be filed and remain of record among the archives of the Court of Bradford county. Therefore the Court permit the said petition to be deposited in the office of the Court aforesaid.

“ *Per curiam* :

“ JOHN B. GIBSON, President.

“ *Attest* : CHAS. F. WELLES, Clerk.”

For a year the *Gazette* was dated at “ Monmouth,” also court records, but yet the name was not satisfactory, and Burr Ridgeway in his issue of the *Bradford Gazette*, dated March 4, 1816, at “ WILLIAMSTON,” says :

"The name of this village having become the source of considerable impetuosity and unreasonable strife, the editor, willing to accommodate all, announces a new name this day—may it give satisfaction and become permanent."

The prefix, *William*, of the "new name" was still designed to honor Mr. Means, and the strife continued more earnestly than before. Each name had its advocates, and in almost any date of the *Gazette* of 1816, may be found notices signed at Williamston, Monmouth, Towanda and Meansville.

Other names were *tried on*, but did not fit well enough to wear very long. Among these, the old name of *Claverack* was suggested, and Oct. 27, 1815, E. B. Gregory gives notice of property for sale, signing *Vauxhall*.

Again in 1822, the *Bradford Settler* was dated at *Meansville*. The contest over the new name assumed a political phrase, the Democrats favoring the name of *Meansville* and the opposition that of *Towanda*.

"In 1828, James P. Bull and Wm. Patton, leading Democrats of the county, who had previously influenced the Senator from the district, Judge Ryan, to oppose the incorporation, finally yielded to the strong current of popular feeling, and acquiesced in the incorporation by the name of Towanda,\* which in the Indian dialect was pronounced *To-wan-daugh* and by the primitive inhabitants in its vicinity *Town-day*."

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\* We are told, however, that a private meeting of the citizens was called, who signed a petition to the Legislature for the incorporation of the borough under the name of Towanda; and that before they were detected by their opponents, it had passed into a law.



## LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION.

Towanda, the most populous town in the county, is situated on the right bank of the Susquehanna, at the eastern end of a plateau that rises about 1,400 feet above the river, and extends westward to the Armenia Mountains. The Court House is in latitude  $41^{\circ} 47'$  north, and in longitude  $25^{\circ} 28'$  east of Washington.

The altitude on Main street in front of the Public Square is 732 feet above tide. We give the following apt description in the words of another :

"The town is beautifully located, standing on the Wysox end of the bridge, it spreads itself out before the beholder like a pre-Raphaelite picture, glowing in the sunlight and shadows. The foreground of the landscape is the broad, blue mirror of the Susquehanna and the long line of stately stores and ware-houses of Main street, broken by the spires of the Court House and the Presbyterian Church. While rising in terraces, peeping out from the beautiful foliage which half conceals them, the comfortable homes and neat residences on Second, Third, and Fourth streets, clinging to the hilly back-ground, recall to the mind visions of the celebrated hanging gardens of ancient Babylon. It is a scene of natural beauty that is rare in its combination of natural and artificial adornments,—one that is rare in any country, even in our own favored land, so beautiful by nature, so adorned by human endeavor."

## ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNTY SEAT.

"The bill erecting Ontario county in 1810 (changed to Bradford in 1812), provided that the trustees should select

the site for the Court House, which, however, must be within five miles of the geographical center of the county, Wysox, Towanda and Monroe were the candidates for the location of the seat of justice, and each sent petitions to the trustees preferring its claim, and urging its advantages over the other places named. In order to reach a conclusion best for the county, the trustees appointed a day on which they would meet delegates from the various localities, at the house of Wm. Means, Esq., and there determine the question. The day arrived and so did the delegates, but they were informed that the trustees had come the day before and early that morning had set the stakes\* for the location of the Court House; Esquire Means declaring, with a twinkle of his eye, that persons were susceptible to various kinds of arguments." Thomas Overton gave the county the land for the public square and laid out the village of Towanda.

Esquire Means donated from his portion of the plat two lots on the corner of "Second and Spruce" (now Bridge) street for church purposes; E. B. Gregory gave two lots on the corner of "Second and Beech" (now State) street for an

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\* The people of Wysox were very much disappointed at the decision of the trustees. They had supposed, as a matter of course, the fine plains of the east side of the river, were a more preferable site for a town than the steep side-hills on the opposite side. It will be remembered that one of the schemes for the new county, provided that the county seat should be at Wysox. In anticipation of this, a town plat had been surveyed, the streets marked and named, and the place called New Baltimore. So certain were the people of this arrangement that the *Luzerne Federalist* of Sept. 7, 1810, says: "We are informed that the new seat of justice for Ontario county is fixed by the Commissioners at Wysox." In an advertisement of a farm at Wysox, the advertiser describes it as "adjoining the plat of New Baltimore, which will undoubtedly be the county seat of the new county." This opinion was strengthened from the fact that Moses Coolbaugh, one of the trustees, was a resident and large property owner in Wysox.

academy ; and a subscription of several hundred dollars was taken towards defraying the expense of building the Court House and jail, as part of the consideration for locating the public buildings at Towanda. The original proprietors of the town were William Means, Thomas Overton, Shepard & Dorrance, Ebenezer B. Gregory, and Harry Spalding. That portion owned by Wm. Means was from the square below South street—so called because it was the southernmost street of the plat—up to the run between Pine and Spruce, now called Bridge street ; Overton and Shepard & Dorrance owned from Means's line up to Beech, now called State street ; Gregory owned from their line to the western terminus of Maple street, whence his line diverged northeastwardly to a point near the corner of Tanner and Second streets, whence it diverged still farther eastwardly to the river at the terminus of Tanner street ; Overton & Spalding owned all north of Gregory's line.

The corners of the streets were laid north two degrees, east, and north 88 degrees west, being  $49\frac{1}{2}$  feet in width, except Front, now called Main street,—the principal street,—Poplar, and Beech, which were 66 feet wide. From the river westward the streets were five squares in length, eight lots to the square, and were called Water (a considerable strip next the river), Front, Second, Third, and Fourth streets ; from south to north they were called South, Spruce, Pine, Poplar, Beech, Maple, Lombard, Tanner, Chestnut, and Walnut.

Owing to the divergence of the line of the Kepple warrant from near the western terminus of Lombard street,

towards the river, being north 50 degrees east, some of the squares along the northern diagonal boundary line were reduced to fractional parts of a square. As Elizabeth street (so called after Elizabeth Means) and other streets have been laid out south of South street, the name of that street has been by common consent changed to Washington street. Since the bridge over the Susquehanna was located at the eastern terminus of Spruce street, that has been known as Bridge street; and as the State road passes westwardly through the borough and diagonally crosses Beech street and was made to conform to it, it was given the name of State street.

The original map is still extant, and is headed "Plan of Overton in Bradford county, Pa." The only buildings located upon it are "Gregory's house," "store," and a smaller building unnamed, all in the same square, and adjacent lots.

#### COURT HOUSE AND JAIL.

As already stated, until the Court House was built, the courts were held at the "Red Tavern," and the jail kept by Sheriff Rockwell at his residence in Monroeton. The deed for the public square was dated Aug. 19, 1813, and arrangements were at once consummated for the erection of an office for the Commissioners and Prothonotary, Joseph Elliott contracting for the same at \$335. The office\* was completed and occupied August 4th, of the same year.

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\* This was a wooden building and occupied the site of the engine house, the "fire-proof," a stone building, afterwards occupying the same ground. A couple of rooms in the old Court House were also used as offices for awhile. In 1857-58 the present Prothonotary's and Register's office was built. It is a fire-proof building and cost about \$7,500.

Under date of Sept. 30, 1813, the County Commissioners give notice in the *Bradford Gazette* that "they are desirous of making contracts for materials for building a *court house and gaol*; and request those who have subscribed-sums for the public buildings to meet them at their office in Towanda on the 3d day of November next." The work was begun in 1814, the Commissioners hiring the masonry done by the day, and contracting with Peter Egner, of Northumberland, for the building of the superstructure. The Court House was completed and occupied Jan. 9, 1816.

Among the bills audited were some for the expenses in "raising" the building, one of which was \$46.50 for whisky and \$4 for cider, and another, \$91.82 for meals.

The building\* was burned down in the great fire of 1847.

The records of the Commissioners contain the following entry made by the clerk: "March 12, 1847.—This day the greatest fire occurred in Towanda that has ever been known in this section of the country. It broke out on Main street between one and two o'clock, p. m., and among other buildings the Court House and jail were burned."

An act was passed by the Legislature March 15, 1847, enabling the county to make a loan for the erection of new buildings, and a contract was made with Col. J. F. Means, June 25, 1847, Sidney Hayden being the sub-contractor, who fulfilled the contract. The new building (the present one) was occupied in September, 1850. Its approximate cost,

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\* The old Court House stood where the Prothonotary's and Register's office now is, extending farther north, being lengthwise with the river. The basement was "the jail," and a couple of rooms on the first floor were also used for keeping prisoners, the balance of the floor being occupied by the jailor. The court-room was on the second floor.

complete and finished for use, was \$28,000. The prisoners in the jail the same year of its completion attempted to destroy it by fire, but were frustrated, the fire being discovered and extinguished before serious damage was done. An apprehension of a repetition of the attempt, which might prove successful, led to the construction of the present massive structure on Pine, between Main and Second streets, which was erected in 1871-72, Avery Frink, architect, at a cost of \$65,000. For strength and adaptation to the purposes of a county prison it is probably not excelled in the State, and is equalled by very few similar structures. It is constructed of mill stone brought from Millstone creek. It contains a "dwelling-house" basement 30 by 60 feet, all two stories high, the stories being 10 feet 6 inches in the clear. The main entrance on Pine street is a massively built archway, and the entire building presents an appearance of strength and durability that gives a most pleasing sense of security to the residents of the county.

#### GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT.

The present site of the borough of Towanda, when the first settlers came to it, was covered with a dense growth of timber and shrubs, so notably as to be known by the older settlers as "Canewood"; and the midnight howl of wolves and the piercing scream of panthers were often heard in close proximity to the villagers' primitive log dwellings. When first laid out the village had but a single street—a narrow wagon road along what is now Main street, called the "Tioga Point" road. The ravines near Bridge and Lombard streets

were crossed by bridges of logs covered with planks, which becoming rotten, made their transit dangerous. Judge Laporte once fell through the lower one with his team, but fortunately without injury to his person or horses.

In 1812 there were seven\* families in Towanda village, and though it was the seat of justice, in 1816 the number had only increased to twelve; in 1820 the number was about thirty, and in 1830 about fifty. In Sherman Day's account of Towanda, 1842, he puts the population at 912, which had increased to 1135 in 1850; 1571 in 1860; 2696 in 1870; 3813 in 1880, the number now being about 4,000.

The establishment of Towanda as the county seat, bringing the officers and the official business of the county hither, alone insured a gradual growth of the place. But, besides, the town has natural advantages, and has received an impetus from time to time. It will be remembered that when the Commissioners agreed upon the site for the public buildings, there was no bridge across the Susquehanna, which, especially during the spring of the year, was impassable; and that fully two-thirds of the people to be accommodated, lived on the west side of the river. Moreover, two valleys—the natural outlets—draining the greater portion of the county lying west of the river, converge gradually and terminate with the valley of the Susquehanna, midway between which the village of *Meansville* was situated. Before the day of roads such goods as were consumed by the pioneers were brought up the river in boats. Lumber and shingles were about the only articles for which money could be had.

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\* Really but five, as Newell and the Watts family were then considered out of the village.

Mr. Means kept goods and trafficked with the people. Mills were early established up the Sugar and Towanda creeks, lumber cut and in the spring floated down these streams to the river, in small rafts; roads were also built at an early day up these creeks, and Towanda became, as it is to-day, the business centre of the county.

Andrew Irvine's tannery, the erection of the bridge in 1832, Enos Tompkin's enterprises, the establishment of the bank, the building of the North Branch Canal, the foundry, the publication of wide-awake newspapers, and lastly the railroads, each gave impetus to the growth of the town in its earlier history. In later years men of enterprise have furthered the interest of the town and given it new life. Foremost among those to whom especial credit is due, M. C. Mercur has been the philanthropist and most zealous worker.

The first few years of Towanda's history is only a record of her struggles. There was no chance for improvement and it would be great injustice to the worthy fathers to regard them as inert. In those days but a small portion of the county was owned by those living in it. Lumber, peltry and maple sugar were about the only articles of export and for which money could be had. Almost as soon as a dollar was earned the settler paid it on his land, leaving the merchant till some future time. With the latter, the solution of the problem of "getting along" was a difficult matter. He could buy on short credit, but must generally sell "on tick," as it was called, or not at all. Many bought a single stock of goods, then closed their stores, or had them closed



by their creditors. Those that had "a little ready money" and trafficked in lumber finally succeeded. Another great drawback was the poor facilities for transportation. Goods were at first brought up the Susquehanna in Durham boats, then hauled in wagons from Philadelphia and later from Newburg on the Hudson. Now is it surprising to know that Towanda did not improve much during the first twenty-five years? In 1825 the only streets opened were Main, State, Pine, Lombard and a portion of Second. None of these were graded, and even Main street was very uneven and hilly. At this time the greater part of the prospective town was yet wooded, no particular effort being made in public improvements until after the incorporation of the borough in 1828. In 1836 marked improvements were made in grading and in opening new streets through the persistent efforts of M. C. Mercur and William Elwell, Street Commissioners. Farmers were getting out of debt. They had stock and produce to sell, and could consequently buy larger bills of goods and pay cash. This made the merchants and manufacturers prosperous, who could now afford to contribute to public improvements. The bridge was now built, communication opened with the eastern part of the county, the canal begun and Towanda entered upon an era of prosperity. The population gradually increased, business multiplied and improvements continued. The railroad gave a new life, and the town finally outgrew the borough limits and was enlarged. Originally the borough extended from the river to Fifth street, and from about two rods south of Elizabeth street to the ravine on "Hemlock Row." The

gas supply, the water works and other valuable improvements have been made, from time to time, and will be more fully mentioned in another part of this volume.

From the various assessments we produce the following synopsis: The merchants of Towanda in 1812 were Wm. Means and Harry Spalding; in 1820 three were doing business, Gurdon Hewett, having been added to the list; in 1825 the number of merchants and grocers was six; in 1831 eleven; in 1838 nineteen; in 1850 twenty-one; in 1860 twenty; in 1870 forty-nine.

The principal merchants that have done business in Towanda since 1840, but now out, have been: Thomas Elliott, general; H. S. Mercur, general; M. C. Mercur, general; J. D. Montanye, general; Burton Kingsbury, general; Joseph Kingsbury, general, including books and stationery; E. D. Montanye, general; E. T. Fox, general; Hiram Mix, general; H. C. Porter, drugs; Nathaniel N. Betts, general; Sidney Bailey, afterwards Bailey & Nevins, groceries; O. D. Bartlett, general; Hugh O'Hara, boot and shoes; Geo. Bunting, ready-made clothing; Tracy & Moore, general; Stephen Hathaway, boots and shoes; John Wilcox, boots and shoes; E. W. Baird, general; Job Kirby, boots and shoes; M. E. Solomon, clothing; John Beidelman, general; Taylor & Co., dry goods; Patch Bros., groceries; Collins & Powell, ready-made clothing; A. M. Warner, jeweler; Isaac Post, hardware, &c.; Wm. A. Rockwell, general; J. D. Humphrey, boots and shoes; Col. J. F. Means, general; Wickham & Black, general; Ford & Ward, dry goods; George Ridgeway, grocer; Patton & Payne, drugs; Bram-

hall & Cowell, groceries; E. S. Benedict, clothing; Hall & Russell, afterwards Coddington & Russell, hardware; A. M. Coe, boots and shoes; Capt. James M. Gillson, jeweler; Chas. Reed, drugs; Lord & Co., hardware; Joseph Hines, furniture; L. L. Moody, boots and shoes; Kent & Bliss, drygoods.

Those prominent in other business have been—John Carman, foundryman and dealer in hardware; James Mackinson, manufacturer of furniture, dealer, and undertaking; Russell Pratt, coopering; Mark C. Arnout, tanner; Andrew and Philip Seebich, wagon-makers and blacksmiths; Henry and Adam Essenwine, blacksmithing and carriage ironing; Elkanah Smith, harness-making and saddlery; Miles Carter, confectionery.

#### THE TOWANDA BRIDGE.

By an act of the Legislature, March 24, 1831, the Governor was authorized to incorporate a company for erecting a bridge over the Susquehanna at Towanda. An appropriation was made, and the balance of the money necessary to complete the bridge was raised by individual subscriptions as stock.

John Bottom, a practical bridge builder, contracted for the job and performed the work on the same in 1832, the structure consisting of three spans.

A new appropriation was made by the State, and in 1837-38 the original bridge was taken down, the piers raised, the bridge extended on the east side one span, and a towing-path added. Bottom & Scott were the contractors.

October 24, 1849, the east span of the bridge was burned

and immediately rebuilt. Again, in 1854, the same span\* was destroyed by fire.

The river having cut around the east end of the bridge it was again raised seven feet in 1854-55, M. C. Mercur and Thomas Elliott being the contractors.

Toll was taken until Sept. 16, 1879, since which time the bridge has been free. The county wishing to purchase the bridge, viewers were appointed, who, in their report, which was confirmed by the Court, estimated the property worth \$20,000. The price was not satisfactory to the stockholders, and litigation over the matter is still pending. The spans of the bridge average 225 feet each, making the length 900 feet, the roof projecting 10 feet farther.

#### THE CANAL AND RAILROADS.

During the construction of the North Branch Canal, from 1837 to 1840, Towanda increased very rapidly, and a large number were added to the business circle. Towanda became a good market and the farmer's products had a ready sale at home. The town and surrounding country were growing prosperous, until the crisis of "40-41."

The North Branch Canal was located and contracts for the construction thereof allotted in 1836. That portion lying in Bradford county was surveyed in the summer of 1836, and operations soon after commenced. Work was suspended from 1842 to 1849 for want of appropriations from the State, when it was resumed and the canal finished in 1854.

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\* "On Thursday afternoon last (Sept. 7, 1854,) the east span of the bridge across the river at this place was destroyed by fire. This is the second time that this part of the bridge has been burned."—*Bradford Reporter*.

The object of the canal was to develop the North Branch region. Unfortunately, the canal proved to be a very imperfect and uncertain affair, and a continual expense to the State. Public sentiment finally underwent a complete change, and those who were once most eager for its construction became the warmest advocates for its sale. In 1858 a company of capitalists, consisting of Mercur, Welles, Hollenback and others, of Bradford and Luzerne counties, was formed and effected a purchase of that part of the canal from Wilkes-Barre to the State line. The company found many obstacles to overcome, which finally led to the consideration of the expediency of a railroad.

The Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad Company was organized as the successor of the canal company, with the privilege of constructing a railroad upon or near the towing-path or berme side of the canal. The railroad was surveyed in the summer of 1866, and the first train entered the village of Towanda, Nov. 26, 1867. The road was opened from Wilkes-Barre to Waverly, Sept. 20, 1869. At the latter point it connected with the Erie railway; at the former with the Lehigh Valley railroad, and being in fact but an extension of it.

The road has opened up the eastern and central portions of the county, affording communications by rail with both New York and Philadelphia, and the coal and iron regions of the central parts of the State.

In 1857 the Barclay railroad was opened from the Barclay mines to the canal basin at Towanda. On the completion of the Pa. & N. Y. R. R. a junction was formed at To-

wanda, so that the coal is transferred from the mines, without reshipment, to any part of the country.

In Sullivan county valuable beds of soft anthracite coal had been discovered, and in 1865 a company was organized for the purpose of constructing a railroad to them. The distance is twenty-eight miles, and the road was opened in 1871. The cars run on the Barclay railroad track from Towanda to Monroeton, where the Sullivan & State Line railroad begins.

The North Branch canal, which passed through so many vicissitudes, and for a period of more than forty years attracted so much attention from the people of this county, was by law, passed in 1872, allowed to be abandoned by the company, and since that time every trace of its existence is being removed as rapidly as possible.

In conclusion, it is only fair to state that, while the canal was expensive, it was a good thing for the people in many respects, and we indeed doubt whether the railroad is more to their advantage in anything else than a means of travel and quick transit.

#### THE CHURCHES.

*The First Presbyterian Church of Towanda* was an offshoot from the church of Wysox. In 1821 that church was blessed with a marked revival, and thirty-eight were added to its communion. A number of these were living on the west side of the river. In accordance with a request of the church that it might be divided, the presbytery appointed a committee which met the applicants for the new church at the Court House in Towanda, Oct. 25, 1825, and were con-

stituted into a separate organization by Rev. Ebenezer Kingsbury and the Rev. Salmon King. The following were present and entered into covenant: Rufus Foster, John Fox, John B. Hinman, Abraham Foster, Samuel Cranmer, Clark E. Conley, Ephraim Ladd, Lydia Scott, Hannah Taylor, Mary Fox, Sally Foster, Eley Ridgway, Deantha Gilson, Selina Powell, Weltha Hale, Lois Ladd.

Rufus Foster, John B. Hinman, John Fox and Ephraim Ladd were chosen Ruling Elders; Rufus Foster, Deacon; and J. B. Hinman, Clerk.

In 1829 the number of members had increased to 27. The church struggled against great opposition until the winter of 1831, when Rev. John Dorrance, then preaching at Wysox, assisted by Rev. Nicholas Murry of Wilkes-Barre, afterwards so widely known as "Kirwin," commenced a series of meetings in the Court House, and the following summer 34 were added to the church. Up to 1833 the church had had no regular pastor. In September of that year the church gave a unanimous call to Rev. Oscar Harris to become their pastor at a salary of \$400 per annum, which he accepted,—was ordained and installed pastor of the church on the 30th of October following. In 1834 there was not a church edifice in Towanda. This church, however, determined to build one. A site was settled on Pine street, between Main and Second, and during the Fall of 1835 the church was completed and opened for worship. August 7, 1837, Mr. Harris resigned his pastorate, and was succeeded by Rev. Julius Foster, in December, who was ordained and installed pastor Feb. 4, 1838. Dec. 31, 1837,

twenty persons were received into the communion of the church. The old church becoming unsafe, the present building was erected and finished in the Spring of 1855—the first public service ever held in it was the funeral service of Deacon John Fox. Mr. Foster\* continued a pastor of the church until his death, Jan. 16, 1865, a period of twenty-seven years. He was succeeded in the pastorate by Rev. Wm. Harris, who had supplied the church during the latter part of Mr. Foster's illness. The next winter (beginning in January) occurred a great revival. The services of Rev. E. P. Hammond had been secured by the Young Men's Christian Association and 73 names were added to the church roll during the year. Under Mr. Harris's pastorate, the building was enlarged and the church was quickened in all of its activities. He resigned in January 1870, and in March of that year Rev. John S. Stewart, D. D., was installed pastor. The church has enjoyed a steady growth under his pastorate, however, being greatly revived in 1876 and 1885. June 3rd, 1886, 106 members were received into membership of the church, the whole number now being 380. Dr. Stewart is a gentleman of rare literary attainments, of poetic genius, and a sound and logical theologian.

Previous to 1825 it was necessary for all who wished to worship God stately to repair to Wysox. After the erection of the Court House, services were frequently held there ;

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\* "Rev. Julius Foster was a faithful and able preacher, greatly beloved by his church and respected by all who knew him. He was a staunch defender of the truth, a prudent counselor, and bore an unblemished reputation. Over hills, along rough roads, through storms and heats, he rode far and near, to answer some special call for his services or to attend some meeting of the church courts."



also at Elder Fox's; in the school house; in the "fire-proof;" at the house of Jonathan Fowler, J. B. Hinman and others. Prior to the time embraced in the foregoing Rev. Mr. Corss says: "Church meetings were often held in barns, although there seems to have been some sort of house of worship before this in Wysox. Sometimes the people of Wysox met those of Towanda at a half-way place—Mr. Means's barn on the east side of the river. The word of the Lord was precious in those days, and the good people were ready to submit to many inconveniences to enjoy the privileges of the gospel."

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* of Towanda was incorporated by an act of the State Legislature, passed the 16th day of April, A. D. 1838, by the name, style and title of "the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Towanda." The first Board of Trustees named in the act of incorporation was composed of the following members: William Watkins, E. R. Utter, Nelson P. Brown, Silas Noble, William Elwell, John E. Geiger, James P. Bull, Burton Kingsbury, George H. Bull.

The church building was erected under the pastorate of Rev. Philo E. Brown, in 1837. Prior to that time, the few members of the society worshipped in private dwellings, in the Court House or school-house. The East Genesee Conference held its session here in 1861, at which Bishop Baker presided. In 1869 the church edifice was rebuilt and enlarged, frescoed, carpeted, furnished with a good organ, and dedicated by Bishop Peck, March 16, 1870.

Towanda was not early a *rendezvous* for the Methodists.

"Father Cole's," at Monroeton, was the great centre of Methodism for miles around, and was the preaching place many years. The circuit-riders, or itinerants, as they were called, in making their four weeks' trips would preach at "Father Cole's," then pass on to Ulster, or Burlington, till "Father Mills's" house was established as a half-way place. Here in his log house, on the hills above Sugar Creek, congregated the widely scattered inhabitants of the neighborhood to listen to the preaching of the Sacred Word. A little class was formed, with "Father Mills" as class-leader, which was the nucleus of Methodism in Towanda. Among the first itinerants who preached here are remembered—John<sup>\*</sup> Griffin, Hiram G. Warner, Rev. Birge, James Hall, Asa Orcutt, Sophronius Stocking, James Gillmore, John Wilson, Philetus Parkest, Mr. Kendall, Mr. Hosmer, Mr. Davis, Mr. Judd, Rev. Lull, Palmer Roberts, Rev. Philmore, Joseph Towner, and George Evans. Evans is said to have been an able man, and preached a considerable at the Court House.

Appended is a complete list of the pastors, with date of appointment of each, since 1837: Philo E. Brown, 1837; Clark E. Smith, 1839; A. Abbott, 1841; "Father Mansfield," 1842; Israel H. Kellogg, 1843; John W. Nevins, 1844; Edward Hotchkiss, 1846; D. S. Chase, 1847; John N. Brown, 1849; Theo. McElheny, 1852; Isaiah McMahon, 1853; B. F. Rawlins, 1855; Andrew Sutherland, 1856; Nelson A. Depew, 1858; S. Nichols, 1860; Nathan Fellows, 1861; Elijah Wood, 1863; John T. Brownell, 1866; Chas. S. Fox, 1869; Chas. W. Bennett, 1870; O. L. Gibson, 1871;

M. C. Dean, 1874; Geo. W. Chandler, 1875; Geo. C. Jones, 1878; Chas. H. Wright, 1880; C. T. Moss, 1882; L. F. Congdon, 1885; Franklin Ball, 1886.

The church has had a steady growth, and greatly strengthened by an occasional revival, the membership at this time numbering 370.

*Christ Church.*—Rev. Samuel T. Lord, in addition to his labors at Athens, held occasional services during the Autumn of 1833 in Towanda, and in December began to officiate here regularly. Among the laymen who were active in introducing the services of the church in Towanda were M. C. Mercur, O. D. Bartlett, Henry S. Mercur, and Mark Miller. A little class was formed and services held for a short time in the Court House, then for a few years in the "fire-proof" where they also held their Sabbath School, M. C. Mercur, O. D. Bartlett and Miss Mary Woodruff being the teachers. Mrs. Geo. Wansey, Mrs. Chas. Toucey, Mrs. Noah Spalding and Mrs. Geo. Watson, formed a part of the original class, and Antes Snyder, Wm. B. Foster, Jr., and Abraham Goodwin were prominent members of the church in its early days.

In 1840, Rev. Robt G. Hays, in charge of the parish, reported to the convention that the amount necessary for the completion of a church had been raised. Dec. 20, 1841, the Court granted a charter under the name of "Christ's Church," to Wm. B. Foster, Jr., O. D. Bartlett, Abraham Goodwin, John N. Weston, C. L. Ward, M. C. Mercur, David Wilmot, and their successors. The year 1842 was one of almost unparalleled financial difficulties, but notwith-

standing the church was completed in this year and an organ purchased. In this year Rev. Geo. Watson became rector, and in 1844 the church was admitted into union with the convention. The church was built by contract, and the ground for the same was donated by Hiram Mix. In 1849 it was altered and enlarged and a bell purchased. During 1853-'54 funds were raised by the congregation and a rectory built. The first three months of the year 1866, witnessed a deep religious interest in the community, and on April 11th Mr. Douglass presented fifty-five candidates to the acting Bishop of the diocese for confirmation. The following are the rectors of the church, since 1844, with the date of identification with the church :

Asa S. Colton, Jan. 1845 ; Robert J. Parvin, Sept. 1847 ; Benj. J. Douglass, June, 1850 ; Francis D. Hoskins, Aug. 1866 ; William McGlathery, Jan. 1870 ; Chas. E. McIlvaine, Nov. 1873—died at the rectory Feb. 22, 1876 ; when the church was served by Wm. Atwell of Elmira, J. McAlpine Harding of Athens, and lay reading, until Sept. 1876, John S. Beers became rector, and was succeeded by Rev. E. A. Enos, who severed his connection in the Autumn of 1885. The number of communicants at this time is about 175.

*Roman Catholic.*—"The first Catholic service held in this county was at Asylum, during the existence of the French colony there. M. Carles, the priest, was accustomed to celebrate mass regularly, and attend to the other duties and services prescribed by the church. With the dissolution of the colony, both the priest and his parish took their departure, and the French mission was ended, after having

continued about five years,—from 1794 to 1799 or 1800.

“The next movement towards church growth occurred at a period when there was a large immigration to this county from Ireland. In 1821 the settlement of Irish people holding the Catholic religion was begun at Silver Lake, in Susquehanna county. At the solicitation of Mr. Patrick Griffin, the earliest settler there, the Bishop was induced to send Rev. Father O’Flynn on a mission into the northern part of Pennsylvania and southern New York, who should look after any scattered families he might find in all that vast region, and administer to them the sacraments of the church. The missionary was suddenly called from his earthly labors, while in the discharge of his duties at Danville in 1829, and was taken to Silver Lake for burial. Rev. Henry Fitzsimmons was appointed to this mission in 1836; and in May 1837, he started on horseback to visit the far-off outposts of his field. In his route he visited Troy, Canton, Ridgebury, Athens, and Towanda, celebrating mass and administering the sacraments to the faithful. This self-denying zealous missionary had the satisfaction of seeing the fruits of his labor in the formation of a church at each of these places.” The mission was divided and Rev. John O’Reilly was assigned that portion which included Bradford county soon after.

When work was begun upon the North Branch Canal, contractors sent agents to Ireland, who, representing the advantages afforded the poor people in America, induced thousands to emigrate to this country. Many of these people found work on the sections of the canal lying in this

county, and began to locate in considerable numbers along the line.

Father O'Reilly gathered the followers of his church at Towanda and held services in various places until 1841, when he and his congregation erected a plain wooden church edifice on the site of the present church in Towanda village. He greatly endeared himself to the members of the parish by his kind and encouraging suggestions, being ever ready to grant any favor in his power. When work upon the canal suspended, he advised his parishioners, who had been thrown out of employment, to move back into the townships where the land was cheap, purchase farms and become permanent citizens. In accordance with this advice, little settlements of Irish people were formed in various parts of the county and have become quite as prosperous as any about them.

Father O'Reilly\* was relieved from his duties here by his own request, and was succeeded by Rev. Basil A. Shorb. Father Shorb was followed by Rev. Mr. Ahearn, and he by Father Doherty, who was succeeded by the Franciscan fathers. After them Rev. Patrick Toner had charge of the field. During his administration, in 1869, the old wooden church was taken down and the present elegant brick Gothic structure erected on Third street. The church with sacristy is 125 feet long and 50 feet wide, and has a tower with spire

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\* "Father O'Reilly was as fearless as he was kind. While making one of his visits down the line of the canal, he was told that some of the laborers on a certain division had been indulging in drink too freely, and that the person who kept the grog had just procured another barrel, and it was feared that serious consequences would follow. The faithful priest hastened to the scene, and, after administering a severe rebuke to the riotous laborers, seized an axe, broke in the head of the barrel and allowed the contents to flow out on the ground."

190 feet high. It is the handsomest church edifice in Towanda, and was finished under the excellent management of Father Kelly and dedicated as "Saints Peter & Paul," Dec. 14, 1879. Its total cost was about \$30,000, all of which has been paid. In connection with the church is a cemetery . . . . in North Towanda, which was consecrated May 24, 1883; and also a school taught by the "Sisters of Mercy," for a history of which see "Schools."

Rev. Charles F. Kelly, an accomplished gentleman of broad intelligence and education, succeeded Rev. Mr. Toner as pastor, Feb 11, 1876. He is an able and eloquent priest, and is greatly esteemed by his parishioners and citizens generally. He has had an assistant since his ministration in Towanda.

The number of Catholics in the parish number about 4,000.

*Towanda Baptist Church.*—In April, 1841, Rev. G. M. Spratt commenced labor in Towanda, in connection with the Monroe Baptist Church. There were but two Baptists in or within four miles of Towanda at the time. His labors after a few months were largely prospered and measures were taken by Isaac Carey and Rev. Spratt to build a house of worship, assisted by James Elliott, then living in Ulster, seven miles away, and Deacon Wm. Lewis, living in Franklin, an equal distance from Towanda. In February, 1843, twelve persons from Ulster were united with the little band at Towanda—James Elliott and wife being among the number.

The two churches, Monroe and Towanda, were known

as one, the Towanda being a branch and holding its own covenant or church meetings; receiving and dismissing members and exercising discipline; but co-operating with the Monroe part in the support of the pastor and in all important questions affecting the whole. The new membership, being poor, could give but little towards building their brick meeting-house except their earnest prayers and kind words. The building required great self-denial and hard labor; especially was this true of Pastor Spratt, who gave liberally of his own means and labored in its construction, costing sacrifice of health, compelling him for several months to suspend all public labors, and confining him for a long time to his bed. The earliest record of the church's occupying its new house of worship was March 1st, 1845.

In 1845 Rev. G. M. Spratt, D. D., who has been deservedly prominent in the Baptist ranks as Corresponding Secretary of the Pennsylvania Baptist Education Society, resigned his pastorate and Jesse B. Saxton became pastor of the Monroe and Towanda church, October 4th, 1845.

On the 14th of October, 1846, a council, formed by representatives from the neighboring Baptist Churches, convened at Towanda and recognized thirty members, dismissed for the purpose from the Monroe and Towanda church, as a regular and independent Baptist Church.

October 31st, 1846, James Elliott and Edwin Hurlburt were elected Deacons of the new church. Rev. Jesse B. Saxton resigned the pastorate April 1st, 1847, when Rev. G. W. Stone was called to the pastorate, serving about a year and six months. In 1849 Rev. W. H. King, then not



ordained, from Waverly, N. Y., supplied the pulpit for three months. The Monroe church united with the Towanda church in calling and supporting the pastors. In April, 1850, Rev. Jacob Kennedy became pastor for one year. The church was without a pastor from April, 1851, till April, 1854, at which time Rev. J. R. Morris became pastor for the space of one year. In June, 1856, Rev. William Sym, D. D., an Englishman, became pastor, serving till the Fall of 1858. The church was now without a pastor till July, 1859, when Rev. Increase Child became its pastor, and served until Oct. 1861. The church at this time numbered 49 members. Rev. S. G. Keim became pastor April 1st, 1863, and served one year. October 1st, 1865, Rev. Robert Dunlap became pastor, remaining till Sept. 1868. From this time till April, 1869, Sunday morning services were sustained, and sermons were read by two of the members alternately.

Rev. S. J. Lusk became pastor in April, 1869, and served in that capacity till Dec. 1874. In 1874 the street in front of the meeting-house having been filled in and the grade having been raised eight feet or more, the church was compelled to adapt its house of worship to the circumstances. Therefore the roof was raised, a floor put in for a new audience room, a vestibule and tower built in front; adapting the house much better for the demands of the church. These alterations or additions and improvements were finished, at an expense of some \$4,000, in October, 1875, and was re-dedicated Nov. 11th of the same year. In November, 1875, the trustees of the disbanded Monroeton church hav-

ing sold their house of worship paid \$900 to the Towanda Baptist Church to assist in paying for their repairs. In April, 1876, Rev. T. A. Edwards became pastor, and served a year or so. Sometime in this year, 1877, all church meetings were discontinued till in May, 1879, when under the labors of Rev. G. P. Watrous, who was serving as missionary for the Bradford Baptist Association, a few of the scattered members of the church were gathered and church prayer-meetings re-established with occasional preaching services till in April, 1880. The church was re-organized under the labors of Rev. J. R. Downer, of Philadelphia, who remained but a few weeks. During that Summer and Fall the pulpit was supplied most of the time by different ministers and laymen.

Nov. 1st, 1880, Rev. Charles T. Hallowell became pastor of the little church, at this time reduced to thirty members. Their number more than doubled during his pastorate, which closed Oct. 1st, 1884. Dec. 17, 1883, James Elliott, who had served the church as its deacon for over thirty-seven years of its checkered existence, died, aged over 95 years. Deacon Elliott was a faithful christian; lived a consistent life, and had the love of his brethren and the respect of his fellow men. He was at his post of duty in the church and Sunday School until a few weeks before his death.

The church was without preaching services for most of the time till Nov. 1st. 1885, though all other meetings were sustained as well as the Sunday School. Rev. G. H. Trapp

entered upon the pastorate Nov. 1st, 1885, and is the incumbent.

*The Universalists.*—Prior to 1866 the Universalists had no regular church organization at Towanda. However, they had regular preaching for several years. Among their first ministers may be mentioned Rev. G. S. Ames, Rev. Mr. Andrews, Rev. S. J. Gibson, Rev. Wm. M. Delong. In 1866, C. S. Russell, Allen McKean, G. F. Mason, Dr. E. H. Mason and W. H. Shaw obtained a charter of incorporation of an organization to be styled the "First Universalist Society of Towanda." The society was kept up, but little progress was made until the erection of the neat and attractive church edifice on Second street in 1876-77. The building is a brick structure, 46x62 feet, with a tower and basement. It was dedicated in March, 1877, as the "Church of the Messiah." The erection of the temple of worship was largely due to the efforts of Rev. G. J. Porter, who was succeeded in 1879 by Dr. Wm. Taylor, and he in turn by Dr. H. R. Nye, the present pastor, in 1883. Dr. Nye is a gentleman of fine literary attainments, a thorough student and an able and logical minister.

The church is in a most flourishing condition, and numbers 101 members. It has a growing Sabbath school, which is well conducted. Twenty-five thousand dollars have been paid by the church during the past ten years, \$12,000 of which were for the church edifice.

*African M. E. Church.*—The first colored minister to Towanda was Thomas Jackson (Bethel), of Montrose, who began coming thereto about 1851-52, every four weeks, and °

preached at private places. He organized a small class, of which John Carter was the first class leader. Mr. Jackson was succeeded by Elder Braine (white) of the Wesleyan Methodist faith and conference, who re-organized the class in conformity with his teachings. He preached irregularly for about a year. Timothy Coggins (colored) followed Elder Braine, and preached occasionally for two years. During his administration in 1853-54, the church edifice was erected and dedicated as a Wesleyan Methodist. White clergymen supplied the church with preaching until about 1862-63, when Solomon Cooper (colored) was licensed to preach by the Rochester conference and given especial charge of the Towanda church. He remained with the church several years and was subsequently ordained an elder. In 1868-69 Elder Cooper left the Wesleyan conference, taking his charge with him into that fold, but did not continue to preach to this church long afterwards. He was succeeded by J. Broaden, who preached about a year, then for a time the church was left without a shepherd. William Smith was finally secured as pastor, and in 1871 the church joined the Zion conference at Philadelphia, and since that time has been regularly supplied by that body with pastors, the church now being styled the "African M. E. Zion Church of Towanda." Singleton Thompson followed Mr. Smith, who was succeeded by Mr. Biddle, and he by Zacharias Tyler. Then came Elder Macaw, Mr. Washington, Mr. Warfield, Dr. Goodman, and Mr. Tyler, returned, the present pastor. The church edifice is a wooden building, 30x40 feet, with basement, and stands on State street between Second and

Third. It was built at a cost of \$2,200. The building was begun at the suggestion of John Carter, who was one of the first and most liberal subscribers. Others of the original subscribers were John Johnson, David Jones, George Stewart and Timothy Coggins. There is a Sabbath school connected with the church, taught by white teachers.

*A Society of Plymouth Brethren* was organized at Towanda in 1879 by M. A. Shaw, Mrs. Irene Kellum, A. C. Wheat, G. H. Wood, Andrew Wood, Lemuel Royse, Miss Judith LeQuin, Mrs. A. C. Wheat and Mrs. Lemuel Royse. The society meets three times a week, twice on Sunday, and numbers 35 members.

#### SCHOOLS.

*The First School* in this locality, of which we have any record, was taught by Miss Weltha Tracy, afterwards Mrs. Reuben Hale, before 1803, in a small building on the bank of the river north of the lime kiln.

Eliphalet Mason taught a school of four months in the winter of 1803-4, in "Wm. Means's district," and again taught in the same district during the Spring and early part of the Summer of 1807.

Daniel Scott, afterwards Judge Scott, before the year 1807, taught in a building opposite the present residence of H. L. Scott. A man by the name of Osborn subsequently taught the same school, and also a lady teacher is remembered, who had lost one eye. "This school accommodated the people from Alger's to Meansville." Among those that attended the first schools at Scott's Mrs. John Cranmer, of Greenwood, is yet living.

At an early date schools were occasionally kept in the Foster neighborhood, and frequently attended by the children from the village. During the existence of these primitive schools the pupils received instruction, as was called in those days, only in the three R's, Reading, Riting and 'Rithmetic.

Goose-quills were used for pens, and making and mending them was a part of the teacher's work. Ink was made from the bark of a soft maple tree, sometimes with a little copperas or sugar added, the latter to give it a gloss.

Problems were not unfrequently worked out upon shingles; and the teachers or pupils ruled the paper used for copy books. The funds for paying the teacher were raised by a rate-bill, and he was not unfrequently required to take a part of his pay in grain, or other products, which he could turn into money.

*Mrs. Gregory's School.*—As early as 1811\* Mrs. E. B.

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\* "The hills immediately back of Towanda, and indeed a large portion of where the town now stands, was then covered with trees and bushes. Directly back of where Mrs. Wm. Mix now lives, huckleberries grew in abundance, and during the season of berries the girls often spent their noon-time in going out and feasting on them. One day during the Summer of 1812, a company of school-girls went out, as was their custom, to have a nice ramble through the woods and get some berries, when suddenly a young bear appeared in their midst. The girls ran in every direction screaming at the top of their voices, a bear! a bear! help! help! One of the girls swooned and fell upon the ground, while each of the others ran for her life and the school. Austin Fowler, Aaron Brown, and Frederick Fieher were at work building the house for Harry Spalding, where Mrs. Wm. Mix now resides, and heard the screams of the girls and hastened to see what the commotion was, when they met the girl running at deer speed to escape from the bear. They soon found the girl who fainted, restored and cared for her, and then proceeded to find the cause of their fright, when they beheld Bruin perched upon the first limb of a large tree apparently enjoying the sight of the frightened girl. The bear was soon secured, and it proved to be one of a pair of young cubs Mr. Withey, a blacksmith living near Oliver Newell's, had kept in a pen for some time and was trying to tame."

Gregory opened a boarding school in her own house, for young ladies and girls. Mrs. Hannah Tracy, who was one of her pupils, says: "We did our studying on the second floor, which to reach, we had to mount a ladder. Mrs. Gregory was very strict, but an accomplished lady and excellent teacher. She gave instruction only in the rudimentary branches." Mrs. Gregory afterwards taught in the log house which was subsequently occupied by Jesse Woodruff as a tailor's shop. Mrs. Nathaniel N. Betts, and Mrs. Tracy (Hannah Ridgway), who attended Mrs. G.'s school are yet living. Other pupils were Eliza and Nancy Hale, Zilpha and Roxy Mason, and Vesta, Augusta and Marinda York. The school was continued for two or three years. Dr. Goodrich taught the next school after Mrs. Gregory's, at Scott's, and the boys and girls of the village attended. Sometimes a school was kept down on the "Fox-Chase" flats, which like the others, accommodated the entire neighborhood. The first regular school in Towanda was held in a wooden building, not far from the river bank, a little north of the Court House. The building was surmounted by a small belfry, which contained the old Moravian bell. After the erection of the "fire-proof," in 1825, several terms of school were taught here, and Wm. F. Dininger, D. F. Barstow and a Mr. Dudley are remembered as teachers. Schools were also taught in the attic of the Court House, and in fact, wherever a spare room could be had in the village. There was no system or regularity in school matters for many years, and education was not advanced until the establishment of the academy. Many of those who

taught, or rather *kept* school, were poorly qualified. Of the early teachers, who were fitted for this important work and succeeded well, may be mentioned—Rev. Wm. J. Richardson, D. F. Barstow, the celebrated James (commonly “Jim”) Crocks, Hannah Ridgway, Rowena Scott, Mrs. Dr. Whitehead, Geo. A. Mix.

*The Towanda Academy.*—Having tired of the irregularities and non-progressiveness in education, the enterprising citizens of the village circulated a petition and obtained funds sufficient for the erection of a two-story brick building, which was to be styled the Towanda Academy. It was to be supplied with skillful teachers and the higher branches introduced. The building\* was erected in 1835, and the school opened in 1836 with flattering prospects. It was conducted by a principal, who furnished his own assistants, and received a certain fixed rate per scholar. The boys and girls began climbing “Science Hill,” indeed, and not a few men and women of Towanda are proud of their old teachers and the thorough instruction which they received in the old Academy. Foremost among those worthy pedagogues were O. H. Platt, U. S. Senator of Conn.; Henry M. Hoyt, ex-Governor of Penn’a; Prof. F. W. Gunn, deceased, an eminent educator and founder of “The Gunnery,” an educational institution of celebrity in Conn.; Prof. Geo. R. Barker, a distinguished teacher; Miss Blackman, the historian of Susquehanna county; Professors Nash, Worthing, Lyman, Scott, Burrhans, Vandercook, and other stars of lesser mag-

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\* The trustees were James P. Bull, Hiram Mix, Enos Tompkins, David Cash, J. D. Montanye, Isaac Myer, Burton Kingsbury, Wm. B. Storm, Geo. A. Mix.



nitude. The Academy became somewhat famous locally, and was continued until after the erection of the old public school building and the incorporation of the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute. The building is still standing on the corner of Fourth and State streets, and is occupied as a residence by Gen. H. J. Madill.

*Public Schools.*—A public school building (wooden) of two stories was erected in 1851-52 on the corner of Pine and Second streets (where the old building yet stands), and occupied for school purposes until 1873, when the increase of population and enterprise of the citizens demanded a more spacious edifice of modern design and architecture.

Prof. H. E. Pitcher, the veteran teacher of Bradford county, was the last "to sway the birchen rule" in the old building.

The present magnificent brick school-house on State street was completed in 1873, and occupied in the fall of the same year with Prof. G. W. Ryan, principal. The building was designed by J. E. Fleming, architect, and is 63x65 feet, three stories, with basement. The architectural effect is very pleasing, and the structure is surmounted with a cupola for the bell. The school again having outgrown the seating capacity, it became necessary to erect an additional building in 1883, 28x32 feet, of two stories with basement. For the accommodation of the northern part of the town, this building was located in the Third ward, and is a very neat structure of brick. The main building consists of nine departments and the High School, which is under the direct supervision of the principal, who has an assistant. The num-

ber of pupils is 515. The Third ward school has two teachers and 105 pupils. The principals since G. W. Ryan have been E. T. Burgan and A. D. Albert (incumbent).

The Towanda public schools are models and second to none in the "Northern Tier"; and the citizens may well feel proud of her educational institutions.

*Young Ladies' School*—In about 1851, Miss Anna Ross (subsequently married Rev. Mr. Latimer) and Anna Jewett (afterwards Mrs. M. C. Mercur) opened a school for young ladies, and were succeeded in 1854 by the Misses Hanson, who established the "Towanda Female Seminary." They were ladies of refinement, and in their school gave especial attention to the accomplishments. They were able teachers and continued the school for four or five years. The house now occupied by Chas. H. Allen, on Second street, was used as their "seminary" building.

*The Sisters of Mercy*.—Through the efforts of Rev. C. F. Kelly, who, believing that the church can better be advanced by training the youth in its catechism and teaching morality, for the benefit of his denomination and the good of poor children, purchased the C. L. Ward mansion and in September, 1877, opened a school under the direction of the Sisters of Mercy. The school is in a very prosperous condition and numbers about 300 pupils. It is free to all, and is supported by the congregation. The usual number of Sisters is ten, who, besides their duties in the school, visit the sick and poor.

*The Susquehanna Collegiate Institute*.<sup>\*</sup>—This school owes

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<sup>\*</sup> We are indebted to Craft's History and Prof. E. E. Quinlan for this historical sketch.

its origin to the action of the Presbytery of Susquehanna, which through its committee on general Christian education, Rev. S. F. Colt, Rev. F. D. Drake, Hiram Stevens and J. D. Humphrey, petitioned the Court of Common Pleas of Bradford County, Sept. 1, 1849, to incorporate a Christian literary institution. The charter was granted May 13, 1850. The design of its founders is set forth in Article 3 of its charter. It reads as follows: \* \* \* "to afford thorough instruction in the various branches of learning, useful and ornamental, English and classical, and in the religion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; and to prepare suitable teachers for parochial and common schools."

In 1852, by request of the trustees the name was changed to the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute. In the same year the location was determined, and ten acres of land purchased in the borough of Towanda for its use. Forthwith money was raised, and July 4, 1853, the corner stone was laid. The building was completed in 1854. It is a handsome four-story brick, and stands on high ground, from which a magnificent view of the borough and surrounding country can be had.

Sept. 6, 1854, the school was opened with the following able faculty: Rev. Sam'l F. Colt, A. M., Principal; Rev. James McWilliams, A. M., Chas. R. Coburn, Miss Margaret Kennedy, Preceptress, and Miss Fanny Biles. Mr. Colt remained principal three years. Mr. Coburn was elected Superintendent of Common Schools of Bradford county, afterward of the Common Schools of the State. Mr. McWilliams succeeded Mr. Colt as principal, but accepting a pastoral call,

Rev. David Craft, A. B., completed the year as principal and acted in the same capacity in the following year. Messrs. O. H. & W. H. Dean, graduates of Lafayette College, were then elected principals and so remained for three years. John D. Hewett, A. B., acted as principal the following year, at the end of which period Mr. Colt was elected to his second term and remained until the fall of '70, when George W. Ryan and Edwin E. Quinlan were engaged for a period of ten years. At the end of three years Mr. Ryan became principal of the public schools of Towanda, and five years later Superintendent of the common schools of the county. Mr. Quinlan remained principal, and is still at the head of the school, this being his sixteenth year.

In 1879 the school celebrated its quarter-century of existence. From the historical sketch read by Hon. E. L. Hillis, A. M., at these exercises, we learn that the number of students at that date had been 1829; of these about 1200 had engaged in teaching, 33 in the practice of medicine, 27 in law, and 10 in the ministry. The average attendance per term had been had been 110, and the whole number of instructors 72. From 1879 to 1885, 796 different students were in attendance, making the total number up to the commencement of the school year 1885-86, 2625. The average attendance per term from 1879 to 1885 was 124, making the average attendance from the beginning not far from 117. The average attendance per year from 1879 to 1885 has been 238. The number of students from the beginning who have taught is not less than 1600. The largest attendance any one year was 1882-83, the enrollment being 263, and

the largest attendance any one term in the fall of '82, when 190 students were in attendance.

The instruction is given in three departments—Elementary English, Common English, and Academic. The last department contains four courses of study, College Preparatory, Academic, Latin Scientific, and Mathematical and Business. No student is permitted to graduate in these courses who has not passed the common English courses, to complete the finalexamination, in which requires two and one-half days' writing, besides the oral examinations. The consequence is that a student who has completed the common English course never has any difficulty in passing examination to teach these branches, or to enter college. Students prepare for college every year from the Preparatory and other courses, the highest number any one year being nine, and the furthest advanced any student has entered college being the junior year. During the last sixteen years no one has been known to fail on his or her entrance college examinations.

Much attention is given to commercial branches, and the classes in book-keeping are usually large. The Institute building is heated with steam, is well supplied with chemical and philosophical apparatus, with maps, charts, globes, anatomical models, skeleton, and a very fine refracting telescope. An observatory, a new physical laboratory, and a room for library, are expected to be added soon.

The faculty the present year are : Edwin E. Quinlan, A. M., Principal ; Chas. W. Sheldon, A. M. ; Harvey M. Buck-

ley, Ph. B.; James P. Hoffman, Jr., A. B.; William Cramer, Nancy Corss, Mabel Black, and Mlle. J. LeQuin.

Eighty-seven different teachers have been employed since the school opened. The venerable Rev. S. F. Colt, the first Principal, and one of the most active of its founders, Mr. A. Wickham, and Rev. C. C. Corss life-long friends of the school, so far as we can recall, are the only ones left of the fathers of the school. Its sturdy and active sons are to be found in every honorable vocation, and in almost every State and Territory in the Union. How wide-spread and how potent its influence eternity only can tell. We quote in conclusion from the Rev. David Craft, himself a former teacher of the school, and well acquainted with its work and influence: "Its foster sons may be found in the halls of Congress, in the State Legislature, on the bench, in the Christian ministry, and in all the professions and vocations of life. The great work it has done in elevating the standard of education in the public schools of the county, through the common school teachers it has sent out and the influence of its own instructors, never has nor never will be fully appreciated. Probably no other agency in the county during the last quarter-century has done so much to advance the standard of education, directly and indirectly, in the common schools of the county. It was largely through the teachers of the Institute that the Bradford County Teachers' Association, which has been an instrument of good in the county for more than a quarter of a century, was organized. Thorough instruction has been furnished from the first in the English, classical, and mathematical

branches, book-keeping and natural science. The Institute having a chemical laboratory, apparatus for a course in philosophy, charts, maps, globes, &c., is well prepared to teach the sciences, and while many pursue these branches, yet it has been best known as a classical institution. A large percentage of its students have always studied Latin. A large number of young men have been prepared for college, and entered with credit. Many young men, whose time or means did not allow them to enter college as a means of general culture, or as a preparation for the study of a profession, have pursued a classical course here with great advantage. In addition to higher English, college preparatory, and normal courses, the Institute has a thorough and liberal course of studies in ancient and modern languages, mathematics, history and natural science, on the completion of which by its pupils they are graduated and receive a diploma. The Institute, by its charter, is empowered to confer degrees, but has never attempted to maintain a regular college course. The religious influence of the school has always been excellent, a large number of its students having become converts while attending upon their studies, some of whom are in the Christian ministry. The school is under the care of the Presbytery of Lackawanna. The school, however, is non-sectarian, the action of the presbytery being limited to a general supervision of the school and election of its trustees."

*The English Nuns' School.*—In September, 1861, six English nuns opened a school at Towanda. They were induced here by the Duchess of Leeds, an American lady, who gave

them a property in Towanda which she had obtained of C. L. Ward. The school opened with bright prospects under the direction of Mother Mary Xavier, and consisted of two departments, "the academy" and "the parish school." The academy was particularly designed for young ladies, and attention was given to music, French, drawing, etc. Young men, however, were not rejected, a few attending. The parish school was especially intended for pupils wishing to take the common English branches only. The first year the former school had about 100 students and the latter nearly 75. All denominations were admitted and the school supported by tuition. The nuns erected the building since known as the "Convent," and held their school there and in conjunction with a private residence (the Bull mansion) standing near. They boarded a few of the pupils. After the first year the original six nuns went to Philadelphia to open another school, when they were followed by six other English nuns who continued the school one year longer, then gave it up as it was not a sufficiently paying institution.

While the school had but a short existence, it was liberally patronized by the towns-people and was a success in every respect except pecuniarily. The convent building, which stood between State and Lombard streets near their western termini, on property formerly of the late Col. J. P. Bull, was torn down in the winter of 1885-86. The Bull mansion is yet standing, and is occupied by the Dunn family.

The history of the banks, fire department, newspapers, so-



cieties, the bar, and other matters, will be found in the second part of this work.

#### THE TOWANDAS IN THE REBELLION.

Bradford county furnished some of the best and bravest soldiers of the war. Among those that did their whole duty, with honor to themselves and credit to their friends by an honest and conscientious discharge of duty at the front, may be found many from the borough and township of Towanda. Of the Towanda boys comparatively few tired of the service, wearied in well doing, fell out by the wayside and returned to their homes to remain during the continuance of the struggle. There are many conspicuous examples of those that had been stricken down by disease and wounds, that after having regained their health and strength at home under the kind and loving care of their friends, again returned to their commands, at the front, to give their lives to their country in her hour of need and trial. While their loss is mourned by those that were dear to them, their grief is solaced by the knowledge of the fact that they died in a holy cause, nobly and bravely doing their duty. Surely the deeds and sacrifices of these brave men can never be forgotten by their friends and countrymen. They are rapidly passing away, many of them into early graves, by reason of impaired health and shattered constitutions, brought upon them by the exposure and hardships to which they were subjected. Brave men and true, let us revere their memory and with grateful hearts remember how great a work under God's blessing they did

for us. And where they "calmly lie and sweetly sleep low in the ground," may their rest be as peaceful as their lives were tempestuous and eventful upon their country's battle-fields.

## SIXTH RESERVES.

### THIRTY-FIFTH REGIMENT, P. V.

The organization of this regiment was effected June 22d, 1861, by the selection of the following field officers: W. Wallace Ricketts, Colonel; William M. Penrose, Lieutenant-Colonel; Henry J. Madill, Major; Henry B. McKean, Adjutant. The regiment was mustered out of service June 14, 1864. Companies I and F were recruited in Bradford county.

### COMPANY I.

*Adams, Henry L.*, sergeant; enlisted April 22, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Feb. 26, '63.

† *Albro, Stephen G.*, private; enlisted July 27, '61; transferred from 2d U. S. Artillery; mustered out April 22, 1864.

*Barstow, D. Henry*, private; enlisted Aug 21, '62; promoted to assistant surgeon 173d regiment P. V., May 14, 1863.

*Brown, Oscar H.*, private; enlisted April 22, '61; died at Tenallytown, D. C., Sept. 1, 1861.

*Bull, William K.*, private; enlisted Oct. 8, '61; died at Brooks's Station, Va., Dec. 3, '62.

*Burbank, Henry A.*, principal musician; enlisted April 1, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Oct. 27, '62.

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† Names marked thus (†) not positive as to the township from which enlisted.

*Burbank, Joseph T.*, private ; enlisted May 15, '61 ; mustered out with company, June 11, '64.

*Chase, Cyrenus F.*, sergeant ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; mustered out with company, June 11, 1864.

*Chamberlain, Joseph G.*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; discharged Aug. 26, '63, to accept clerkship in the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C.

*Coverdale, Wesley*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Aug. 26, '61.

*Davis, Zebulon*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; mustered out with company, June 11, '64.

*Easterbrooks, Andrew J.*, musician ; enlisted May 15, '61 ; discharged for wounds received at Bull Run, with loss of arm, Aug. 30, '62.

*Ely, Daniel*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; transferred to veteran reserve corps ; mustered out with company, June 11, '64.

*Fausey, James S.*, private ; enlisted Oct. 25, '61 ; left company, Nov. 12, '61.

*Fell, Joseph G.*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Feb. 22, '62.

*Goodenough, Orrin D.*, musician regimental band ; enlisted August, '61 ; mustered out July 31, '62.

*Gore, William H. H.*, Captain ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; promoted from Captain Co. I to Major, Sept. 1, '63—to brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, March 13, '65 ; mustered out with regiment.

*Guyer, John M.*, Captain ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; promoted from First Lieutenant to Captain, Feb. 8, 1864 ; killed at Spottsylvania C. H., Va., May 12, 1864.

†*Grist, Norman*, corporal ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; transferred to 191st regiment P. V., May 31, '64—veteran.

*Johnson, James*, private ; enlisted Feb. 5, '64 ; transferred to 191st regiment P. V., May 31, '64.

*Kennedy William*, private ; enlisted May 15, '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Feb. 7, '62.

*Kramer, John*, private ; enlisted May 15, '61 ; transferred to 191st regiment P. V., May 31, '64—veteran.

*Lynch, Charles*, private ; enlisted May 15, '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate, April 18, '64.

*Lynch, Daniel*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; transferred from 1st U. S. Cavalry ; mustered out April 22, '64.

*Madill, Henry J.\** Major ; enlisted June 22, '61 ; promoted to Colonel of 141st regiment P. V., Aug. 30, '62.

*Mehan, Michael*, private ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; died at Langley, Va., Dec. 23, '61.

*McHue, Peter*, corporal ; enlisted April 22, '61 ; wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, '62 ; died at Richmond, Va., June 19, 63.

*McKean, Henry B.*, Lieutenant-Colonel ; enlisted April

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\* At the battle of Bull Run, Aug. 30, '62, Major Madill was the hero of a most daring and gallant act. Observing one of the color-bearers of the Sixth in line of battle with his flag unfurled, after a rebuke ordered him "to get the colors up where he could get some bullet-holes through them," then himself seizing the flag, threw it across his shoulder and rode down the entire line cheering the boys, and christened the flag as he had commanded. Upon his return, as he rode to a little eminence, a minie ball cut the flag-staff off at his shoulder ; but he caught the Stars and Stripes before they went down. At this juncture General Reynolds rode up and requested the flag. Taking his knife he cut the remaining portion of the staff off, tied the flag around his body, as if it were a sash, and with the colors flapping about him he dashed down the line. The sight was inspiring, and pausing for an instant in the midst of the battle, the men gave a tremendous cheer for their commander. For full record of General Madill see biographical notices.

22, '61; promoted from Adjutant to Lieut-Col., April 1, '62; discharged on Surgeon's certificate, Nov. 25, '62.

*McMahan, Matthew*, private; enlisted Oct. 18, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate Dec. 21, '63.

*Noble, Cherrick J.*, private; enlisted May 15, '61; transferred to 191st regiment, P. V., May 31, '64—veteran.

*O'Boyle, James*, private; enlisted April 22, '61; transferred to 191st regiment, P. V., May 31, '64—veteran.

*Phinney, John H.*, First Sergeant; enlisted April 22, '61; mustered out with company.

† *Piersall, Enberry*, private; enlisted July 29, '61; transferred to Co. D., 83rd regiment, P. V., June 10, '64.

*Prentice, S. Willard*, musician; enlisted Aug. '61; mustered out July 31, '62.

† *Roberts, Samuel*, private; enlisted Oct. 20, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate Oct. 29, '62.

*Scott, Thomas*, private; enlisted April 22, '61, mustered out with company.

*Sharp, Matthias B.*, private; enlisted Oct. 16, '61; captured at Bull Run, Aug. 28, '62—exchanged—deserted—date unknown.

*Shuyter, P. C.*, private; enlisted April 22, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate May 11, '63.

*Tripp, Dennis*, private; enlisted May 15, '61; discharged May 11, '63, for wounds received at Antietam, Md., Sept. 17, '62.

#### COMPANY F.

*Barnes, Thomas*, private; enlisted July 14, '61; died at

Libby Prison of wounds received at Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '62.

*Briggs, William S.*, First Lieutenant; enlisted April 23, '61; promoted from Second to First Lieutenant Aug. 27, '63—Brevet-Captain March 13, '65; prisoner from May 8th to May 26, '64; mustered out with company.

*Finlan, Roger*, private; enlisted Oct. 16, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate July 31, '62.

## FIFTH RESERVES.

### THIRTY-FOURTH REGIMENT, P. V.

This regiment was organized June 20th, 1861, by the choice of the following field officers: John I. Gregg,† Colonel; Joseph W. Fisher, Lieutenant-Colonel; George Dare, Major. The regiment was mustered out of service June 11, 1864. Company F was recruited in Bradford county, of which the following were members:

*Alloway, Jacob*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*Angle, Eli D.*, private; enlisted Aug. 15, '61; died at Warrenton, Va, Nov. 10, '62.

*Bogart, Newell*, died before muster.

*Britton, John*, First Sergeant; enlisted June 21, '61; promoted to First Sergeant March 1, '64; mustered out with company.

*Brown, Newell P.*, Corporal; enlisted Sept. 26, '61; taken

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† On the following day Col. Gregg was appointed a Captain in the 6th U. S. Cavalry, when he resigned his commission in the regiment, and Seneca G. Simmons was chosen to succeed him.

prisoner at the battle of White Oak Swamp June 30, '62; returned to company Aug. 6, '62.

*Burwell, Jackson*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; deserted May 10, '62.

*Clark, Daniel S.*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; wounded in the battle of Mechanicsville, Va., June 26, '62; transferred from Veteran Reserve Corps; mustered out with company.

*Conley, William*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; died of fever in hospital at Washington, D. C., March 8, '63.

*Diltz, Daniel L.*, private; enlisted Aug. 26, '61; wounded at battle of Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '62; mustered out Aug. 17, '64—expiration of term.

*Dodge, Dwight H.*, Sergeant; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*Granger, Alexander*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; wounded at the battle of Bull Run Aug. 30, '62; transferred to 191st regiment, P. V., June 6, '64—veteran.

*Harris, J. Wallace*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; promoted to Commissary Sergeant, Jan. 1, '64; supposed to have been killed by the Guerrillas Dec. '64 on Warren's raid—Weldon R. R.

*Haywood, Theron*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; died at Washington, D. C., June 2, '63, of wounds received at Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '62.

*Herda, Augustus*, private; enlisted Aug. 15, '61; wounded and taken prisoner at battle of White Oak Swamp June 30, '62; discharged Jan. 1, 1864.

*Keeler, Edgar*, private; enlisted Aug. 26, '61; mustered out Aug. 17, '64—expiration of term.

*Laplant, Peter J.*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*Mason, Addison G.*, Adjutant; enlisted June 21, '61; promoted from First Lieutenant; discharged March 27, '63. to accept appointment on Gen. Meade's staff; Brevet-Major, August 1, '64—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel March 13, '65.

*Mason, Julius*, enlisted but not mustered, being appointed to a Lieutenancy in the cavalry service of the regular army.

*McGill, Martin W.*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, '62; transferred to 191st regiment, P. V., June 6, '64—veteran.

*McGovern, Jeremiah*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; transferred to 191st regiment, P. V., June 6, '64—veteran.

*Means, J. William*, Second Lieutenant; enlisted June 21, '61; promoted to Lieutenant U. S. Army, Feb. '62.

*Miller, John*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*O'Halleran Lawrence*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*Record, Almon*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.

*Robinson, John*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Aug. 27, '62.

*Rollinson, Alonzo*, private; enlisted July 21, '61; transferred to 191st regiment P. V., June 8, '64—veteran.

*Scott, Edward L.*, principal musician; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with regiment.

*Sullivan, Daniel*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; mustered out with company.



*Sturrock, Robert H.*, Captain; enlisted June 21, '61; promoted to Captain, Feb. 16, '62; killed at Gaines's Mills, June 27, '62.

*Thorp, Ebenezer D.*, private; enlisted Aug. 15, '61; wounded at Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, '62; transferred to 191st regiment P. V., June 6, '64—veteran.

*Trout, Andrew J.*, Captain; enlisted June 21, '61; resigned January, '62.

*Vincent, William S.*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; wounded at White Oak Swamp, June 30, '62; absent (sick) at muster out.

*Ward, William F.*, private; enlisted June 21, '61; transferred to Signal Corps, Aug. 27, '61.

*Wilson, William H. H.*, private; enlisted Sept. 26, '61; died at Alexandria, Va., Oct. 23, '62—grave 1,843.

## ONE HUNDRED FORTY-FIRST P. V.

The 141st was known as the Bradford regiment and was organized Aug. 29, 1862, with the following field officers: Henry J. Madill, Colonel; Guy H. Watkins\*, Lieutenant-

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\* "Guy H. Watkins was a gallant and noble specimen of a soldier." He was most earnest in arousing his countrymen to their duty in the hour of their country's peril, and in one of his speeches said: "That at the most a man could die but once, and he would prefer to die on the battle-field than to think he had shrunk from danger in the hour of his country's need." When in his speeches he asked his fellow-citizens to go with him, he said, "I will stay with you to the end," and most nobly did he fulfill his promise. He was taken sick and returned to his home, but only remained long enough to regain his health. At the battle of Chancellorsville he was shot through the lungs and fell into the hands of the enemy. The rebels were "going through him," when it was discovered that from a badge which he wore under the lapel of his vest, that he was a Mason. His property was restored and he cared for by Longstreet's corps surgeon until he was paroled. He was again sent home, but before his wounds were fairly healed went back to join his regiment. He was offered a paymaster's commission upon his return, but refused it, declaring that he had made a sacred pledge which he meant to fulfill.

Colonel; Israel P. Spalding, Major. The regiment was mustered out of service, May 28, 1865.

#### COMPANY B.

*Angle George W.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; died May 16, '63; buried in Brigade burying ground near Potomac Creek, Va.

*Bennett, Loren*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; died July 9 of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, '63; buried in National Cemetery, Section A, grave 66.

*Britton, Edward*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; transferred to 57th regiment, P. V.

*Califf, John N.*, corporal; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted from private, discharged on surgeon's certificate, Dec. 8, '62.

*Cash, Charles D.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant Aug. 29, '62.

*Carey, Frank B.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; missing, probably killed at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, '63.

*Clark, Dennis F.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '65; discharged Aug. 10, '64, for wounds received at Gettysburg, July 2, '63.

*Clark, William H.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; killed at Gettysburg July 2, '63.

*Coon, Huston*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; mustered out with company.

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On the 18th of June, 1864, while gallantly leading his men before Petersburg, at the "Hare House" he received a fatal wound through the bowels and died an hour afterwards. In conclusion, in the words of another—"He was a true, consistent friend, an affectionate husband, a kind parent, a dutiful son, a devoted brother, but high over all, the bravest and noblest of patriots."

*Coverdale, William H.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; mustered out with company.

*Davies, William T.*, Captain; enlisted Aug. 29, '62; promoted from 1st Lieutenant Sept. 1, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate May 23, '63.

*Granger, Geo. H.*, Corporal; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted to Corporal Dec. 5, '63; wounded at Chancellorsville May 2, '63; transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps March 15, '64; discharged by G. O. June 29, '65.

*Greening, Matthew*, Corporal; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; wounded at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, '63, and at Wilderness, Va., May 6, '64; promoted to Corporal May 12, '64; transferred to Co. B., 24th regiment V. R. Corps; discharged by General Order, June 26, '65.

*Kingsbury, John H.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate Dec. 4, '62.

*Lewis, Stephen S.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; mustered out with company.

*M'Intyre, James*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate Dec, '62.

*O'Halleran Lawrence*, private; enrolled Aug. 27, '64, substitute; mustered out with company (see Co. F, 5th Reserves).

*Ott, George*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; captured at Chancellorsville; mustered out with company.

*Parsons, Eli M.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate Jan. 11, '63.

*Peck, Benjamin M.*, Captain; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted from 1st Sergeant to 2nd Lieutenant Aug. 29, '62, to

Captain May 23, '63, transferred to Division Staff; wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, '63; mustered out with company.

*Rutty, Ezra*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; mustered out with company.

*Savercool, James*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; missing, probably killed at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, '63.

*Soper, Orrin A.*, Corporal; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted July 1, '64; wounded at Wilderness, Va., May 6, '64; mustered out with company.

*Wilson, Jesse A.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate Dec. 22, '62.

#### COMPANY C.

*Eastabrooks, Avery*, Sergeant; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted to Corporal, Jan. 26, '64, to Sergeant, Aug. 1, '64; killed at Boydton Road, Va., Oct. 27, '64.

*Mosier, Simeon*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; transferred to 57th regiment P. V.

*Patterson, Francis E.*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; captured at Spottsylvania C. H., May 12, '64; died at Richmond, Va., May 26, '63.

#### COMPANY D.

*Bennett, Amos*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Jan. 27, '63.

*Bullock Darius*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; wounded at Morris Farm; discharged on surgeon's certificate, April 20, '64.

*Harris, Llewellyn*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; wound-

ed at Gettysburg, July 2, '63; discharged by G. O., May 15, '65.

*McNeal, John*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged Mar. 5, '63.

*Ryan, Thomas*, Captain; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted from First Lieutenant, Dec. 23, '63; wounded at Wilderness; discharged by Special Order, Aug. 6, '64.

*Walborn, Solomon*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '63; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Jan. 5, '63.

#### COMPANY I.

*Alby, Alfred*, Corporal; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted to Corporal, Jan. 1, '64; mustered out with company.

*Corma, Nelson*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; absent on detached service at muster out.

*Mercur, Charles*, First Lieutenant; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted from Second Lieutenant, Dec. 10, '62; transferred to Company K, June 5, '63; commissioned Major, Feb. 28, '65, not mustered—brevet Major, April 9, '65; wounded at Gettysburg, July 2, '63; mustered out with company.

*Shores, Coryell*, private; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Feb. 14, '63.

*Spalding, Edwin A.*, Captain; enlisted Aug. 22, '62; promoted from First Lieutenant, Dec. 10, '62; wounded at Chancellorsville, Va., May 3, '63, and at Wilderness, May 5, '64; discharged Dec. 16, '64.

#### FIFTIETH REGIMENT, P. V.

This regiment was organized Sept. 25, 1861, by the choice of the following field officers: Benjamin C. Christ, Colonel;

Thomas S. Brenholtz, Lieutenant-Colonel; Edward Overton, Jr., Major. The regiment was mustered out of service, July 31, '65.

#### COMPANY G.

*Bassett, Chauncey V.*, Sergeant; enlisted Sept. '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate.

*Bowman, George L.*, Sergeant (Co. K.); enlisted Aug. 10, '61; promoted to Sergeant, died at Cairo, Ill., Aug. 19, '63; buried at Mound City, Ill.

*Carey, William F.*, Corporal; enlisted Sept. '61; transferred to 6th regiment U. S. Cavalry.

*Cross, Charles F.*, 2nd Lieutenant; enlisted Aug. 8, '61; promoted to 1st Lieutenant U. S. Signal Corps, March 3, '63.

*Farrar, George C.*, private; enlisted March 8, '64; mustered out with company.

*Gillson, James L.*, Musician; enlisted Sept. '61; deserted Oct. 1, '61.

*Higgins, Merwin*, Sergeant; enlisted Sept. '61; promoted from private; captured; died Dec. 10, 64—veteran.

*Lewis, James*, Corporal; enlisted Sept. '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate.

*Lewis, Theodore* Corporal; enlisted Sept. '61; promoted to Corporal; taken prisoner at Spottsylvania C. H., May 12, 64—confined at Andersonville; mustered out with company—veteran.

*Lyons, John M.*, private; enlisted Sept. '61; discharged on surgeon's certificate.

*M'Mahon, Michael*, 1st Lieutenant; enlisted Sept. '61; died at Hilton Head, S. C., Nov. 20, '61.

*Overton, Edward, Jr.*, Lieutenant-Colonel ; enlisted Sept. 30, '61 ; promoted from Major, Dec. 15, '63 ; seriously wounded in knee at Antietam ; mustered out Sept. 30, '64—expiration of term.

*Pease, David*, private ; enlisted Sept. '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate.

*Powell, Ethan B.*, 1st Sergeant ; enlisted Sept. '61 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate.

*Scott, Henry*, Sergeant ; enlisted Sept. '61 ; promoted from musician to Sergeant ; mustered out with company—veteran.

*Telford, William H.*, Captain ; enlisted Aug. 8, '61 , promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel, Feb. 8, '65.

*Vincent, William*, private ; enlisted Sept. '61 ; not on muster-out roll.

#### FIFTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT, P V.

This regiment was organized in the Autumn of 1861 by the choice of the following officers: William Maxwell, Colonel ; Elhanan W. Woods, Lieutenant-Colonel ; Jeremiah Culp, Major. The regiment was mustered out of service June 22, '65.

• *Adams, Henry M.*, Second Lieutenant Co. I ; enlisted Sept., '62 ; promoted to Second Lieutenant, May 22, '64 ; killed at Petersburg, Va., July 17, '64.

• *Benedict, Edward S.*, Second Lieutenant Co. I ; date of enlistment unknown ; resigned Aug. 23, '62.

*Chamberlain, Joseph G.*, private, Co. H ; enlisted Aug. 25, '62 , discharged by General Order, June 1, '65. (See Co. I, 6th Reserves.)

*Conley, John A.*, Co. H.

\* *Cranmer, Perry*.

*Darling, James M.*, Captain Co. H ; enlisted Sept. 15, '61 ; promoted from First Lieutenant Co. G to Captain, June 24, '63 ; transferred to Co. A ; discharged June 29, '64.

*Eastabrook, Ward*, private Co. A ; enlisted Dec. 31, '63 ; mustered out with company—veteran.

*Heman, Lyman*, private Co. A ; enlisted Feb. 16, '64 ; discharged on surgeon's certificate, Dec. 13, '64.

*Johnson, Richard*, private Co. D ; enlisted Mar. 18, '64 ; absent (sick) at muster out.

*Kramer, John*, private Co. H ; enlisted Aug. 22, '62 ; absent (sick) at muster out.

*Meehan, Daniel*, 1st Lieutenant Co. G ; enlisted Sept. 4, '61 ; promoted to Captain Co. H, May 30, '62—resigned Dec. 31, '62.

*Peck, Geo. S.*, Captain Co. G ; enlisted Sept. 4, '61 ; resigned Sept. 22, '62.

#### FORTY-FIRST U. S. COLORED REGIMENT.

*Carter, Wilson*, private (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 13, '64 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

*Clark, James*, Corporal (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 14, '64 ; promoted to Corporal Oct. 1, '65 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

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\* At the battle of Fair Oaks, May 31, '62, Mr. Cranmer was fatally wounded. As the rebels advanced, he not being able to walk, his companions picked him up and were bearing him off the field, when he discovered that all would be captured if they persisted in the attempt to save him. He begged his companions to lay him down and flee for their own lives. Alone he prepared to meet his fate. Four rebels rushed upon him. He drew his revolver and shot three of them, and having no more cartridges was at the mercy of the fourth rebel, who thrust his bayonet through the brave man's breast.



*Cooper, Solomon*, private (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 13, '64 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

*Forrest, Columbus D.*, Sergeant (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 14, '64 ; promoted from Corporal Oct. 1, '65 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

*Middleton, Andrew*, private (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 15, '64 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

*Payne, Ralph*, Corporal Co. I ; enlisted Sept. 22, '64.

*Strange, Matthew*, Corporal (substitute) Co. D ; enrolled Oct. 14, '64 ; promoted to Corporal Oct. 1, '65 ; discharged Oct. 18, '65—expiration of term.

#### VARIOUS REGIMENTS.

*Barnes, Burton*, Co. B, 188th N. Y. V. ; died at City Point, Dec. 18, '64.

*Bennett, John M.*, private Co. C 188th N. Y. V. ; enlisted Sept. 13, '64 ; discharged July 10, '65.

† *Bennett, Charles*, private 80th P. V.—unassigned ; enlisted March 29, '64 ; discharged Sept. 13, to date Aug. 25, 1865.

*Coon, Johnson*, Co. C 188th N. Y. V.

*Corwin, Frederick F.*, private Co. H 80th P. V.—7th Cavalry ; enrolled Feb. 24, '64 ; prisoner from Oct. 1, '64, to April 21, '65 ; discharged Aug. 11, to date Aug. 2, '65.

*Cranmer, Edwin*, private Co. B, 80th P. V. ; enlisted Sept. 21, '61 ; wounded at Stone River, Jan. 1, '63 ; transferred to V. R. C., April 1863.

*Foster, James H.*, Captain Co. I, 210 P. V. ; enlisted Sept. 10, '64 ; promoted from 2nd Lieutenant Jan. 21, '65 ; mustered out with company, May 30, '65.

*Gillespie, James*, private Co. B., 41st P. V.—12th Reserves; enlisted Feb. 7, '62; transferred to 190th regiment P. V., May 31, '64—veteran.

*Granger, Burton*, private Co. K., 42nd P. V., (Bucktails); enlisted May 29, '61; died Oct. 2, '62, of wounds received in action.

*Granger, Elijah*—Regular Army.

*Granger, Fred*, private Co. C, 97th P. V.; enrolled March 1, '65; (substitute); mustered out with company, Aug. 28, '65.

*Gregg, John*, private Co. B, 48th P. V.; drafted; enrolled Dec. 13, '64; mustered out with company, July 17, '65.

*Lalley, Philip*, Co. C, 188th N. Y. V.

*McVannon, Morton*, private Battery H, 112th P. V., 2d Artillery; enlisted Mar. 31, '64; transferred to 2d Pro. Artillery, April 20, '64.

*Mosier, Pratt*, Co. A, 35th Penn'a Militia.

*Newell, Orvel G.*, private Co. B, 87th P. V. (substitute); enrolled July 22, '64; mustered out with company, June 29, '65.

*Powell, Henry C.*, private Battery H, 112th P. V., 2d Artillery; enlisted March 31, '64; discharged by General Order, July 21, '65.

†*Scott, John*, Co. H, 14th U. S. Infantry.

*Scott, Michael*, Co. C, 188th N. Y. V.

*Shuyter, Alonzo*, 185th N. Y. V.

*Shuyter, Sylvester*, private Co. K, 210th P. V.; enlisted Sept. 27, '64; died at Jarvis Hospital, Baltimore, Md., Feb. 5, '65.

*Stephens, Mahlon C.*, private Co. B, 207th P. V.; enlisted Sept. 5, '34; mustered out with company, May 31, '65.

*Taylor, John B.*, private Co. D, 10th U. S. Infantry; enlisted Feb. 10, '64; discharged Feb. 18, '67—expiration of term.

*Walborn, Daniel*, private Co. C, 97th P. V.; drafted; enrolled Feb. 4, '64; mustered out with company, Aug. 28, '65.

*Welch, William*, private Co. C, 191st P. V.; enlisted June 21, '61; captured—died at Salisbury, N. C., the next day after liberation.

*Wiggins, Ezra*, 188th N. Y. V.

*Charles Ackley; James Ackley; Hiram Bennett; Thomas Bailey; Bat Costello; Hiram Cranmer; Norman Cranmer; Charles Crowley; †W. Dull; Charles Foster; †J. B. Gray; Frank Granger; Hiram Granger; Philip Harvey; "Bung" Heman; Daniel Heman; †Harden Hicks; Abraham Johnson; John Lafley; John Lynch; Davis D. Maynard; Emerson Maynard; Edward McGill (see Monroe); Wm. Moore; Barton McVannon; Benton McVannon; Clinton McVannon; Fred Rutty; Edward Soper; John Sherdan; Charles Sluyter, John Simons; †William Thompson, Adney Tracy; Henry Vanderpool (killed); John Vanderpool; Samuel Vanderpool; Wm. Vanderpool ("Sickly William"); Wm. Vanderpool ("Limber Bill"); Wm. Vanderpool ("Billy High Top"); Foster Vincent, Peter Walborn; †Geo. Wright.*

### THIRTEENTH PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA.

Organized Sept. 12-17, '62—discharged Sept. 25-26. Lieutenant-Colonel, John F. Means.

## COMPANY F.

Captain, E. O'Meara Goodrich; First Lieutenant, James Macfarlane; Second Lieutenant, Andrew J. Trout; First Sergeant, Wm. T. Bishop, Jr.; Sergeants, Jarvis L. Tidd, Chas. H. Allen; Corporals, J. Valentine Geiger, John Whalen, R. H. Patch, John M. Rahm; privates, Harry H. Bowman, Alvah E. Chamberlin, Benjamin F. Carrier, Francis G. Curn, James Calligan, Charles Durand, Charles Dimock, George Ennis, Nathan C. Elsbree, Minor H. Hinman, C. W. Harding, Clarence H. Jones, Theodore Kramer, Geo. Kirby, James Laughlin, Simeon K. London, Albert Maybee, Joseph C. Mitchell, Henry Mercur, Wesley F. McCabe, D'A. Overton, Wm. M. Quigley, Chas. H. Rose, James Sweet, Seymour Smith, Timothy Sullivan, John M. Spencer, James W. Taylor, Daniel Vandercook, C. L. Ward, David W. Warner, Cyrus Webb; James Ward, E. O. Gillespie.

## THIRTY-FIFTH PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA.

Mustered in, July 2, '63; discharged Aug. 7, '63. Colonel, Henry B. McKean.

## COMPANY A.

Captain, Allen McKean; Second Lieutenant, Wm. T. Bishop, Jr.; 1st Sergeant, Chas. H. Rose; Sergeants, Jesse A. Wilson, Mahlon M. Spalding, Harry H. Bowman; Corporals, R. H. Patch, Nathan Olmstead, Stephen B. Shores, C. F. Dayton; Musicians, Henry A. Burbank, Mahlon C. Stephens; privates, Oliver A. Badger, Henry A. Bartlett, Charles Durant, Geo. H. Estell, Gurdon H. Eaton, Edward Gillespie, James K. P. Gleeson, Wm. K. Hill, S. K. London,

Robert McCutcheon, Wm. F. McCabe, Wm. Pepper, Abram Savercool, James Warford, D. W. Warner, Wm. H. Watkins, Geo. H. Woodruff, James McIntyre, James Scoville.

#### HABITS AND CUSTOMS.

Money, the pioneers had none; and they were required to dress in the plainest and least expensive manner. Their common habiliments were pantaloons and dresses, made from flax for summer wear, and from wool for winter. "Buckskin trousers" were in fashion, and were not unfrequently worn by the men and boys. Roundabouts, or sailor's jackets, took the place of coats.

Calico was less common than silk is now, and cost seventy-five cents per yard. A lady who could afford a dress made from seven yards of this material, wore "an extravagant garment." Shawls were made from pressed woollen cloth, and the finest home-made linen was bleached and constructed into fine shirts for men and boys. A lady's common dress was "copperas and white," as it was called, and "copperas and blue, two-and-two," for nice. For children's garments the mother had colors of her own peculiar device. The women wore handkerchiefs as a covering for the head, or bonnets of their own manufacture. It was not a strange occurrence to see a young lady with her shoes and stockings in her hand, and a handkerchief about her head, while on her way to "meeting" in the log school house, or at some neighbor's cabin. Upon nearing the place of worship she would sit down by the roadside and dress her feet. This was also the custom "when going to town." Garments were

made to wear the longest time possible, as it was very uncertain when the next could be had.

The boys had hats and caps made by their mothers from woolen cloth or straw, and sometimes, perhaps, from raccoon skins. Some wore knit caps, also, until "sealskin caps," as they were called, came in fashion.

Garments were fastened together with thorns and with buttons constructed out of thread, or made by wadding up a little piece of cloth, sufficiently secured with thread.

Nearly every wife had her spinning-wheel and loom, and manufactured her own cloth. Each did her own coloring and the bark from a soft maple tree, hemlock, butternut, or "witch-hazel" was used for dyeing purposes, also logwood and smart-weed. Copperas, alum and sorrel were used to set the colors.

During the summer season the boys, girls and women generally went barefooted, as did some of the men.

In the winter shoes with leggins were worn. Frequently it happened that some of the poorer families had no shoes, in which case they would wind cloths around their feet to keep them from freezing.

But few of the men had a "dress-up" suit. This consisted of *knee-breeches*, ornamented with buckles, long stockings made from cotton, wool or silk, and shoes with buckles.

A lady's "dress-up" generally consisted of a linsey-woolsey suit, improved by pressing.

The food of the pioneers was coarse, and consisted of corn and rye bread, sometimes wheat, with potatoes. The last were generally baked in the fire-place by covering them with

ashes and coals. Mush and milk was not an uncommon diet. Venison could be had in abundance for the killing, and shad for the catching. Deer and bear meat was made more appetizing by smoking it. Jerked venison was also a favorite article on the bill of fare. Milk was the main dependence, and was made a most palatable dish in several ways.

Stoves were not in use, and baking was done in fire-places and stone bake-ovens. The raw material for bread and cake was prepared and put into the bake-kettle (a low, kettle-shaped iron pot with a cover), then placed over coals upon the hearth-stone, with coals also upon the cover, that the baking would be evenly done. The bake-kettle remained in use for some years, when it was supplemented by the tin oven. "Johnny cakes" were baked in the long-handled frying-pans, which were heated over the fire-places. Spiders with long legs were used for the same purpose.

Maple sugar was used for sweetening purposes, and corn-cobs burned to get a substitute for saleratus. A "potash" preparation was finally introduced to take the place of the latter, but was not generally used. Maple syrup and honey took the place of butter, and bear's fat was used for shortening. Fried cakes were baked in pots of bear and raccoon fat. The only maple grove of any considerable importance in the neighborhood was at Foster's. Many of the people depended upon the settlers of the "Heverly settlement" and Albany for their supply of sugar.

Browned rye, peas, beech-nuts, chestnuts and chicory were substituted for coffee, and sage, thyme, peppermint,

spearmint, evans-root, spice bush, sweet fern, wintergreens and hemlock boughs for tea. Imported tea and coffee were too costly, and could only be afforded when the "good mothers" had company. Moreover, Mr. Means and Mr. Bowman only brought in an occasional supply of these articles.

Herbs of all kinds were gathered and used for teas in sickness, and each had its specific cure. For instance, elder-blow, catnip and wormwood were used for children, and bone-set, pennyroyal, etc., for adults.

*Greased paper*, hung over an opening in the wall, afforded light for the cabins in the daytime. At night they were illuminated by the light given out from the huge fire-places, and pitch-pine splinters stuck into the chimney jambs. This furnished sufficient light for the mothers to sew, spin and weave by; for the fathers to mend and make shoes and the boys and girls to get their lessons. Indeed, the Bingham boys, who became good, substantial men, by their diligence obtained a good education for the times, by studying evenings by the light afforded in those days. A supply of pitch-pine knots was put in before winter. Deer fat and lard were sometimes used for illuminating purposes, but not frequently.

*Tallow-lamps* were finally introduced, and were used when tallow could be had, or lard spared. They were a cup-like construction to contain animal fats, and could be hung against the wall. One end of a piece of cloth, answering as a wick, was dropped into the cup and the other end, which hung out, was lighted. Tallow candles next followed, and



subsequently lamps for burning coal oil, and finally gas in Towanda village.

The time of day was determined by "sun-marks" or noon marks, upon the door or window frame. Finally, the old-fashioned clocks without cases and with long-cords were brought in and sold at fabulous prices.

Matches had not yet been invented and fire was made by striking a piece of flint and steel, or the back of a jack-knife together, causing a spark, which was caught into a piece of *punk*, an inflammable substance formed from decayed wood, which was always kept in supply.

Coals were covered with ashes, or the fire-place supplied with slow burning fuel, to keep the fire through the night. But even with this care the fire was frequently lost, and the family required to go to a neighbor's after live coals in the morning. This was called "borrowing fire," and was not an unfrequent occurrence at Towanda.

Wooden pails were substituted for tin, and wooden plates, called "trenchers," bowls, etc., for earthenware. Wooden spoons and forks, also pewter plates, spoons and other table pieces were in use.

"Splint brooms" were made out of hickory, beech or birch sapling.

Farming implements were very imperfect, as compared with those of modern invention. A plow was used with one handle, and a wooden mould-board; a crotched sapling with holes bored through, and supplied with wooden pins, answered as a harrow. Grain was sometimes "brushed in," by dragging a hemlock bush over the ground;

pitch-forks and hoes were manufactured by blacksmiths and were very clumsy articles; grain was threshed with flails, and cleaned by shaking it with a "hand fan," which was a very laborious task. Fanning mills were not introduced till about the year 1825.

In lieu of a wagon, long sleds or carts with two wheels, were used in making trips to mill and hauling small loads. Oxen were generally used instead of horses, and in some cases were trained to be quite fleet. They were not only used for general purposes, but in making visits and carrying the family to church.

*Logging and Chopping bees* were common, and the men and boys most cheerfully turned out with their ox-teams, or came with their axes to assist their neighbor in getting a start. On such an occasion a sheep would be killed, and boiled mutton and pot-pie had in abundance for dinner and supper.

*Spinning bees* were also in fashion. The lady getting up the bee, would distribute tow among her lady friends, and on a day set apart, they would bring in their skeins and enjoy a visit and supper with her. The affair generally wound up in the evening by a dance, or with "snap-and-wink-em" and other games. Sometimes the ladies would take their spinning-wheels under their arms and go to the house of their friend, do a day's work and enjoy a visit at the same time. Quilting and sewing parties were not uncommon, and mothers and daughters alike came with their needles to assist their friend in need.

*Mowing bees*, husking bees, apple cuts and spelling

schools were more of a modern date, *dancing* being the chief entertainment of the young people.

Every mother taught her daughter to spin, weave and make garments, besides giving her a most thorough training in the culinary department. A thorough knowledge of house-keeping was the one important thing for a young lady to know, and she that showed herself the most skilled in this, was the first to find a suitor.

“The ladies sung and danced so gay,  
Beside the spinning-wheel,  
And practiced late and early then,  
On spindle swift and reel;  
The boys would ride bare-back to mill,  
A dozen miles or so,  
And didn't fear a sun-burnt brow,  
Some fifty years ago.”

Courting is said to have been “short and sweet,” and if a young swain afforded a horse he would take his lady love riding by placing her on the horse behind himself. On one occasion a certain young gallant came to the neighborhood, in the usual manner, to see his “Marinda Ann.” During the evening his horse broke loose and left him in an embarrassing situation. The next morning as he was wending his way homeward, with his saddle over his arm, he aptly replied (to one understanding the joke,) that “he had to take the bitter with the sweet.”

The people took great delight in visiting each other, and would generally go on foot, or with carts or sleds, drawn by oxen. Evening visits were the most common. A meal was always had together the hostess, with pride,

preparing the best the house afforded. The guest never forgot her knitting-work, or sewing, and would visit and work at the same time. The kitchen was the parlor, sitting-room and all. There were no castes then, and the old people say "these were the happiest days we ever saw." One neighbor envied not another, but on the contrary, did all in his power to encourage and help along. All dwelt together in "brotherly love," living as true men and women, without the bigotry of a selfish nature.

Liquor was always had in abundance at bees, raisings and other doings, and was a very common beverage—even church members and preachers imbibing. "The best could be had for twenty-five cents a gallon, and when a tippler got boosy, he was not a week in getting over it.

Hay was scarce, and cattle fed largely upon browse—the under-shoots of trees, especially of the maple and basswood. Cows roamed in the woods during the summer season, and were found by the tinkle of the bells, which they wore about their necks. Pigs were fatted upon hickory nuts or taken to the beechnut woods.

#### ROADS.

"The only roads the early settlers found were the natural highways,—the river and the large creeks,—and those which had been made by the Red men. Along the path of Sullivan's army there had been made a road passable for horses, but this had been badly injured during the four years which intervened between the time of that expedition and the settlement of the county. All of the early travelers describe

it as a difficult and dangerous path, supported in some places by the trunks of trees, in others nearly filled by the loose earth having fallen down into it, winding over rocks and steep mountain sides, from the tops of some of whose encampments the traveler might look down hundreds of feet. The fact that the Susquehanna has no natural valley, that it breaks through a succession of ridges, that the faces of these ridges next the river are almost perpendicular and reach down sheer to the water's edge, has always made it a difficult and expensive matter to construct roads along the river and to keep them in repair after they had been constructed.

"The first settlers in this county experienced the embarrassments arising from the want of roads in a great degree. As soon as they could provide for the immediate necessities of their families, they began the opening of highways for travel and transportation. The river, when navigable, afforded a cheap and ready means of transporting articles down but to push a large boat, or even a canoe, against the rapid current and over the shoals and rifts in the Susquehanna was a pretty formidable undertaking. Then at times the river was rendered impassable on account of ice or floods."

The first road of any considerable use to the people was the State Road, from Wilkes-Barre to the State line. Filed at Harrisburg is the "Draft and Return of the Survey of a Road," which is described as beginning on the west side of the river, opposite Wilkes-Barre; thence up the west side of the river to Wyalusing, where it crosses the river near Sugar Run, "a mile below Hancock's"; thence up the river to Wyalusing Creek; thence to Towanda and the State line.

This was commonly called the "Old Stage Road," as over it the first mails were carried through the county. The survey was filed in 1780.

In answer to a petition signed by a number of citizens about Ulster, the court of Luzerne county appointed Commissioners to lay out a road from Towanda Creek to Tioga Point, who reported a survey of a road beginning at Jacob Bowman's tavern and crossing the Tioga opposite Hollenback's store, and recommending it approved, Nov. 20, 1792. Just two years after—Nov. 20, 1794—a return is made of a survey of a road up the west side of the river, from Wyalusing Falls to Tioga. In 1795 the road was laid out up Towanda Creek, and another up Sugar Creek in 1798.

In 1807-8, pursuant to an act of the Legislature a road was surveyed, "beginning at a point where the Coshecton and Great Bend turnpike passes through the Hoosic mountains, thence in a westerly direction to the western bound of the State." The road, however, seems to have been some time in building. By act of the Legislature of 1815-16, an appropriation was made for the building of a certain section of this road in the eastern part of the county, and George Scott, Samuel Wood and Ebenezer Kendall appointed Commissioners to superintend the disbursement. This road passed through the towns of Pike, Wysox, crossed the river at Towanda, where State street now is, thence up by Gregg's through East Troy, and Covington in Tioga county. It is still known in the eastern part of the county as the "State Road." The road was built through Towanda in about 1817.

An act of Assembly, passed March 30, 1824, authorized the appointment of Commissioners to lay out a road from Meansville to Pennsborough (Muncy). William Brindle, Edward Eldred and Eliphalet Mason were appointed, who report the survey of the road, which they began at a point which was fourteen rods from the front of the Court House, and then ran to the line between Bradford and Lycoming counties, a distance of seventeen and one-half miles. It should be remembered; however, that the roads above mentioned were not all opened at the time of the survey, it in some cases being years after.

#### MAIL MATTERS.

In 1800 a mail route was established between Wilkes-Barre and Painted Post, with offices at Wyalusing and Athens in this county.

The following will show how letters came in those days:

Postmarked—"Lewiston 29th May, 1800."

MR. REUBEN HALE,

Mouth of Towanda Creek,

15 miles below Tioga Point."

"To be forwarded from Wilkes-Barre."

marked—"paid."

"In 1803 Charles Mowery and Cyril Peck carried the mail from Wilkes-Barre to Tioga on foot once in two weeks."

"In 1810 Conrad Teetor contracted with the Government to carry the mail once a week in stages from Sunbury to Painted Post, by the way of Wilkes-Barre, Wyalusing and Athens." However, he did not always drive his "coach

and four," as he was accustomed to call his stage and team, going on horse-back or with a one-horse wagon when the mail was small or the passengers few. In 1804 a postoffice was established at Wysox, with Burr Ridgway postmaster, whither the Towanda people were required to go after their mail. In the Autumn of 1810 Reuben Hale was appointed postmaster for Towanda, and the office kept by E. B. Gregory, whom he had appointed his deputy. When the stage arrived on the east side of the river the mail carrier would blow his horn, when some one would be sent across the ferry for the mail, which would be left in a hollow stump. This was usually carried over in one's pockets or in a pillow case. In 1812 William Means was appointed postmaster and the office kept at his house. In those days the postage was paid by the one receiving the letter or parcel. By Act of Congress Feb. 1, 1816, the following rates of postage were established :

For single letters,\* any distance not exceeding 40 miles, 8 cents ; over 40 miles not exceeding 90, 10 cents ; over 90 not exceeding 150, 12½ cents ; over 150 not exceeding 300, 17 cents ; over 300 not exceeding 500, 20 cents ; over 500, 25 cents. The same can now be carried to any part of the United States for two cents. Double and triple letters were double and triple the above rates.

The *Bradford Gazette* of Sept. 14, 1813, gives the following list of letters remaining in the postoffice at Towanda, Sept. 9, 1813 : " County of Bradford—Isaac Allen, Absa-

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\* Single letters were those that contained one piece of paper ; double letters two pieces, triple letters three pieces, etc.



lom Carr, Towanda—Ethan Baldwin, Samuel Cranmer, Isaac Ellsworth, William French, Sally Kent, Eliphalet Mason, Esq., Silas Scovel ; Canton—David May ; Orwell—Nancy Darling ; Wysox—Jacob Strickland.

EBENEZER B. GREGORY,

A. P. M.”

At this time it will be remembered that there was not a mail route in the western part of the county, and that the people residing there were required to come or send to Towanda after their mail. In 1819 we find Edwin Benjamin, P. M., at Towanda ; in 1822 Morris Spalding ; then followed Nathaniel N. Betts for several years ; Ethan Baldwin for a short time, who was succeeded by Alvah Chamberlain, S. S. Bailey, John G. Fries, Col. H. B. McKean, G. A. Chase, S. W. Alvord, Col. Elhanan Smith, Wm. Shaw, S. W. Alvord (again), Percival Powell, J. P. Keeny, E. A. Parsons (incumbent).

The Towanda office not only accommodated the citizens of the borough but besides those residing in the two townships. June 21, 1852, a postoffice was established at *North Towanda* with Stephen A. Mills postmaster, and continued for a short time. In about 1840 *Manville Mills* postoffice was established at the Pail Factory, and continued for something like two years, Chas. M. Manville being the postmaster.

#### ELECTIONS AND OFFICERS.

After the formation of the county the “ Red Tavern ” was the election place for many years. The first election was held on the second Tuesday (13th) of October, 1812, for the

purpose of electing county officers. The board appointed to conduct the election in Towanda were Eliphalet Mason, inspector; John Felton, Jacob Bowman, Charles Brown, judges; Ethan Baldwin and E. B. Gregory, clerks. Those that voted at that election were—Henry Salisbury, William Finch, Henry Spalding, Benjamin Coolbaugh, James Dougherty, Wm. Coolbaugh, Ananias Whitman, Solomon Allen, John Pierce, Peter Edsall, Reese Stephens, Usual Carter, Isaac Foster, Nathaniel Edsall, Russell Fowler, Elias Thompson, Samuel Seely, Jacob Wagner, David Blanchard, Ezekiel Griffus, Moses Gladden, Jacob Ringer, Nathan Coon, Aaron Carter, William Coolbaugh, Jr., Amos Ackler, Stephen Wilcox, John Goodwin, Wm. Peppers, Wm. McGill, John Head, Andrew Gregg, Ezra Rutty, Thomas Cox, Abial Foster, John Northrup, Benjamin Ackles, Edsall Carr, Absalom Carr, Wm. French, Jr., Wm. B. Spalding, George Bowman, Noah Spalding, John Mintz, Wm. Means, Moses Warford, Amos Bennett, Jr., Amos V. Mathews, Buckley Chaapel, Ezra Rutty, Jr., Stephen Horton, Elisha Carpenter, Lemuel Payson, Abner C. Rockwell, Ebenezer P. Clark, Adonijah Alden, Abijah Northrop, Martin Stratton, Timothy Stratton, Sam'l Needham, Eleazer Sweet, Timothy Alden, Job Irish, Oliver Newell, Moses Rowley, Richard Goff, Solomon Talady, Jr., Ozias Bingham, John Fox, Jonathan Fowler, Abraham Foster, Austin Fowler, Wm. Thompson, Isaac Ellsworth, Elisha Cole, Richard Benjamin, Jas. Lewis, Samuel Cranmer, Parly White, John Schrader, Josiah Cranmer, Wm. Goff, John D. Saunders, Ethan Baldwin, John Franklin, Jabez Squifes, Jacob Bowman, Zabin Williams,

Joshua Wythe, Samuel Gilson, James Roales, John Schraeder, Jr., Calvin Cranmer, James Northrup, Eliphalet Mason, John Felton, Charles Brown, Jonathan Frisbie, Josiah Stockings, E. B. Gregory, Rufus Foster, Smith Horton, Reuben Hale, Ephraim Ladd, Warner Ladd, Rowland Wilcox, Sheffield Wilcox, Daniel Miller. Total number of voters, 108. These electors resided in what are now the towns of Asylum, Albany, Monroe, Franklin, and the Towandas.

The candidates voted for at this election were for *Sheriff*—A. C. Rockwell, 84 votes; John Spalding 2nd, 25; Wm. Means, 40; John Mintz, 26; John Taylor, 3; Jacob Boardman, 1; Jacob Bowman, 8; Job Irish, 2; Aaron Carter, 2; Josiah Stocking, 1; John Miner, 1; George Bowman, 1; Elisha Cole, 1; John Fox, 2; Peter Edsall, 1; Andrew Gregg, 1; Samuel McKean, 4. *Commissioners*—John Saltmarsh, 35; Samuel Gon, 34; George Scott, 33; Joseph Kinney, 58; William Myer, 62; Justus Gaylord, 54; Eliphalet Mason, 14; Jesse Hancock, 3; Isaac Chaapel, 2; Clement Paine, 6; Charles Brown, 1. *Coroner*—John Fox, 2; John Taylor, 43; John Horton, 43; John Minor, 41; Harry Spalding, 48; Jacob Bowman, 6; Reuben Hale, 2; Job Irish, 1.

At the general election, October, 1813, we find the following names not contained in the list of 1812: Daniel Thompson, Thomas Simpson, Chas. F. Welles, A. C. Stuart, Daniel Drake, Nathaniel Talcott, Jesse Woodruff, George Davidson, Burr Ridgeway, Christopher Cowel, John Simpkins, Andrew Irwin.

The first township officers elected for Towanda, in April,

1813, were: William Gough, Constable; Noah Spalding and Wm. Means, Supervisors. The first (1829) officers of Towanda borough were: Hiram Mix, Burgess; Jared D. Goodenough, Warren Brown, Warren Jenkins, John N. Weston, Stephen Hiatt, Council; Wm. Kelly, High Constable. The first officers elected (Jan. 16, 1852) for North Towanda township were: Jesse Woodruff, Judge; Wm. H. Foster, Francis Watts, Inspectors; Stephen Bennett, Justice-of-the-Peace; Isaac Myer, D. M. Bull, Daniel Kern, Commissioners; John Bailey, Jr., Assessor; John C. Adams, Stephen Powell, James Elliott, Auditors; Wm. J. Mauger, Edward Carpenter, Roderick Granger, Nathaniel Bennett, Benj. C. Goodwin, Stephen Powell, School Directors; Richard Horton, Constable; Sam'l. B. Foster, Treasurer; Jos. C. Powell, Town Clerk.

Towanda township comprises a single election district and in 1884, gave for President Jas. G. Blaine, 154 votes; Grover Cleveland, 53; J. P. St. John, 2 B. F. Butler, 3. Towanda borough comprises three districts or wards and gave in 1884, Jas. G. Blaine 522 votes; Grover Cleveland, 236; J. P. St. John, 13; B. F. Butler, 58. North Towanda gave Jas. G. Blaine, 97 votes; Grover Cleveland, 54; J. P. St. John, 3; B. F. Butler, 4.

#### MILLS.

For many years one of the principal things with the pioneers was lumbering. Mills were put up at an early day; the first of which we have any record of is described on pages 50 and 53. The next, the Foster mill on Sugar Creek (page 63), was built about the same time, and a year or two

after the "original grist mill," a little above it, with a single run of stone. Jacob Myer was connected with the grist mill for a year or two and "in 1799 enlarged and improved it." His son, Isaac Myer, subsequently purchased the property, enlarged the mill, improved it, and for many years did a very extensive business—the place still being known as "Myer's Mills."

Jacob Myer, a brother of Isaac, purchased an interest with him in both mills. He was a mechanic, and built a carding and fulling mill about seven rods above the grist mill and for a number of years they did a considerable business in that line in addition to lumbering. They also put up a sawmill at Luther's Mills, Jacob finally becoming interested in the mills at the Pail Factory. In 1848 Isaac Myer tore down a greater part of the grist mill and rebuilt a larger one on an improved plan. In 1858 he sold a one-third interest each to E. T. Fox and J. O. Frost, and in 1871 sold the remaining third to Wm. Foster, who with D. F. Foster and Thos. Clancey are the present proprietors.

The original sawmill at Hale's was built something over 100 feet above the present grist mill and its power supplied through a mill race from a dam built at the head of the island, on the south side of the creek. The dam has since been built farther down the creek, and lengthened at different times, owing to the wash of the creek. The grist mill which was built in or before 1800 (page 56) was supplied from the same dam and stood about 100 feet below the sawmill. Nearly thirty years ago the old mill was torn down, and a new one—the present one—built by Maj. Hale and

G. H. Bull a little below the original site. In about 1840 the old sawmill was torn down and replaced by a more modern structure, which went to decay about twenty years ago. This mill property, which has passed through numerous hands in its early history, is now owned by F. H. Hagerman. In 1827 Nathaniel Manville came in from Rochester, N. Y., and forming a co-partnership with Jacob Myer, they purchased the mill property of Abraham Foster and Wm. Pepper, and in 1828 made additions and converted the grist mill into a pail factory. An oil mill was also put up and the manufacture of lumber continued. An average of fifteen men were employed the year round, besides several girls in the painting department. The establishment did a flourishing business for several years and turned out a superior line of goods of both fancy and plain ware. They took their pails down the river in raft-loads and sold them at various points, also hauled them to Elmira and other places. Flax seed was brought to their mill in large quantities and sold or traded for oil. A village was started of several families, a boarding-house opened and a postoffice established, besides a wagon-shop, a shoe-shop and blacksmith-shop. Nathaniel Manville finally sold out his interest to his brother, C. M. Manville, who continued the business still under the old name of "Myer & Manville" till 1847, when they sold to Wm. Barnes, who is yet engaged in the manufacture of lumber there. The competition of other factories, finally so crippled the sale of the goods which were manufactured here that the business was discontinued, and the thriving little town abandoned.

## DISTILLERIES.

At an early day distilleries were established by Jacob Bowman, Wm. Means, Ezra Rutty, Reuben Hale, and later by Hiram Mix. There were quite as many in Monroe and others still farther up the Towanda and Sugar creeks. The manufacture of liquor was an important industry and it was a common beverage. Almost every family kept a supply and it was thought that haying-and-harvesting, bees, raisings, etc., could not be properly gone through with without it. Even ministers when passing through on their circuits, "expected a little whisky to refresh them." The liquor was pure, drunkards few and delirium tremens seldom heard of.

## SHAD-FISHING.

One of the main dependencies of the early settlers was the innumerable quantities of shad, which in their season were found in the Susquehanna, being of a superior quality and flavor. As soon as the ice went out of the river the shad started on their journey to the fresh water creeks, for the purpose of spawning, returning to the sea late in the season. They came in very large schools, and from time immemorial the natives of the forest had been in the habit of taking them in large quantities with their bush-nets. The early settlers would select a cove on the point of an island free from rocks and large stones as "the drawing place" for their seine. The head of Northrup's island, above the mouth of Towanda Creek, was noted "pulling ground." So plentiful were these delicious fish that they were caught by the barrel and salted for summer use, besides large quantities being sold to the other settlers. The dams which were

thrown across the river when the canal was built have prevented the shad from ascending the river, and thus deprived the people of a great luxury.

Venison was also a favorite food of the pioneers. Deer were plentiful, and in the early days of Towanda village, when being hotly pursued, these creatures would go bounding down Main street to strike "the runway" near the Barclay depot, thence swimming the river at the head of Northrup's island.

#### AN ACCIDENT.

Some years before 1812, Samuel Clark was cutting out a road up Sugar Creek, when he was mistaken by Capt. Coons and shot for a deer. "He was a native of Rhode Island and came to Ulster in or before the year 1800. He was a brother of Benjamin Clark, of that place, and father of Ebenezer Clark," already mentioned in this volume.

#### A NARROW ESCAPE.

Many years ago, when the Towanda hills were yet a wilderness, "Sim" West, a young man, started one evening from his father's (Williamston West) to Wm. Finch's, two miles distant. Not long after he started a pack of gray wolves struck his track, and followed, making the woods ring with their dismal howls. He ran at his best speed, the wolves constantly gained on him, and would soon have overtaken him had it not been for the Cox house on the way. Bursting open the door, he barely had time to mount the ladder leading to the second story, which he drew up after him, before the denizens of the wood filled the room below.



All night long the hungry pack kept up their howls, leaving at daylight, when the young man passed on to Mr. Finch's and related his adventure.

# MISCELLANEOUS.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

DAVID WILMOT.

No man has ever lived in Bradford county, nor indeed in Northern Pennsylvania, who has achieved so wide a reputation as David Wilmot. He was born in Bethany, Wayne county, Pa., where he spent his boyhood days and was educated there, and at Aurora. At the age of eighteen he commenced the study of law at Wilkes-Barre, where he remained until the time of his admission to the bar, when he removed to Towanda. He soon became a conspicuous character, and early in his career gained a great influence over the people, with whom he was always honest. He had a fine voice, a good presence and an eloquent tongue. Indeed, he quite magnetized his hearers and could use *satire* without giving serious offense. Mr. Wilmot was possessed of a remarkable analytical mind, but was not a great lawyer save before a jury. He relied upon his latent resources at the moment to make up for his lack of thoroughness and aversion to study. However, he was a deep thinker and with his quickness of comprehension, eloquence and ability to read faces, carried juries while others more thoroughly versed in the law made but little impression. His make up soon developed him into a politician, and he took the Democratic side of the house opposed to Gen. McKean and his followers. It was not long before he became recognized as a leader, and in 1844 was elected as a

Free Trade Democrat to Congress, and was the only member from Pennsylvania who voted for the repeal of the "tariff of '42." In common with the Democratic party he favored the annexation of Texas. On the 4th of August, 1846, President Polk sent to the Senate a confidential message, asking an appropriation to negotiate a peace with Mexico. A bill was introduced into the House, appropriating two millions of dollars for the purpose specified. It had now become so apparent that the proposition was intended to strengthen the pro-slavery influence in the general government, that a consultation of a few members of Congress was held and the matter thoroughly discussed. It was agreed that it was a move not in accordance with the Democratic or Jeffersonian idea as argued in the Constitutional Convention and shown by the ordinances of 1787. The measure must therefore be checked, and the following resolution was drawn up by Mr. Wilmot and agreed to by the others, and he selected to offer it as an amendment to the bill: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in any part of said Territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall first be duly convicted," which has since that time been known in our country's history as the "Wilmot Proviso." The measure, though lost in Congress, created a great agitation throughout the country, and was the wedge which split the Democratic party upon the slavery question. Many of the Democrats in the district made a bold assault upon Mr. Wilmot for this, and tried to prevent his return to Congress. In 1846 he was re-elected on the tariff issue over Judge White, a High Tariff Democrat; and again in 1848, mainly on the sentiment of his proviso. While he was elected as a Democrat he was a "Free Soiler" and supported Van Buren for the Presidency in 1848. In 1850 Mr. Wilmot again secured a renomination to Congress as a Free Soil Democrat, which resulted in a split of the Democratic party in the district on the slavery question. The pro-slavery Democrats having put a candidate in nomination, for the good of the party, upon Mr.

Wilmot's suggestion, both candidates withdrew and Galusha A. Grow was selected as a compromise and elected. In 1851 he was elected Presiding Judge of the district over Wm. Elwell, the Independent candidate, and acted in the capacity for which he had been elected till 1857, when he resigned the office to enter the gubernatorial contest. His competitor, Wm. F. Packer, the Democratic candidate was elected, but his defeat sounded the death knell of the Democratic party in the State and made him more popular than before. The speeches which he made throughout the State awakened a deep interest in the principles of the Republican party, and finally made it victorious. However, he had not dreamed of an election, and at a serenade given him at his home, after his nomination, said: "I well understand I can not be elected, but the canvass will be the means of establishing a party of which the people will be proud and can rely upon." His statement was verified the next year by a Republican victory in the State.

Mr. Wilmot was one of the fathers of the Republican party, and in fact, the very measures which he had proposed in Congress in 1846, had no small influence in leading to its existence. In Bradford county, and, indeed, in the "Wilmot District," he made the Republican party what it is to-day. While acting as Judge he would hold courts during the day and speak to the people in the school-houses at night.

Mr. Wilmot was a delegate to the National Republican Convention held in Philadelphia in 1856, and was chairman of the committee on resolutions and drew up the famous resolutions denouncing "slavery and polygamy as the twin relics of barbarism." "In the convention he was proposed as the candidate on the ticket with Mr. Fremont for the vice-presidency. He could have commanded a unanimous nomination but was averse to it." In 1860 Mr. Wilmot was also a delegate to the National Republican Convention held in Chicago, and was its temporary chairman. He, with the Pennsylvania delegation, was instructed to vote for Gen.

Cameron. After one ballot he saw that Seward would be nominated unless Cameron were dropped. Whereupon the Pennsylvania delegation, he at its head, asked leave to retire. After consultation Mr. Wilmot asked that their instructions be taken off, which was agreed to by the delegation. Upon the second ballot nearly their whole vote was cast for Mr. Lincoln, which carried enough others on the third ballot to nominate him. Mr. Lincoln never forgot his kindness, and he always had great influence with him. After Mr. Wilmot's defeat in 1857 he was appointed by Gov. Pollock to the same office which he had resigned, and continued to act in that capacity until 1861, when he was elected to the U. S. Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Gen. Cameron, who had been selected as one of Mr. Lincoln's cabinet. "A wide field of honor and usefulness seemed to open before him. He was in the prime of his manhood, in the full vigor of his mental powers, revered everywhere as the champion of freedom, and his friends confidently expected him to win for himself a still loftier name while advancing the cause of human rights. But at the outset of his senatorial (1861) career his health began gradually to fail, until it was almost impossible for him to attend to the routine of his duties." Mr. Wilmot was a member of the "Peace Conference" of 1861, and when coming down from one of its meetings said: "There is no use; we cannot agree, and I am not sure that a war would be the worst thing that could happen to this country. I fear it is near at hand." At the close of his term as Senator he was appointed by President Lincoln a Judge of the Court of Claims, which office he held until the time of his death.

In politics Mr. Wilmot was wonderfully successful, and up to 1857 knew not what defeat was, even though he sometimes ran counter to the party machinery. Such an influence had he that he virtually ran the politics of the county. After the organization of the Republican party in this county in 1855, he kept up such a constant agitation of the slavery question that in 1856 he gave Fremont 4600 majority over

Buchanan, the county having been heretofore Democratic by several hundred. The "Wilmot District" gave Fremont a majority of ten thousand.

Mr. Wilmot was not an Abolitionist, as is sometimes supposed, but on the contrary was opposed to that party. He never claimed a place with Wendell Phillips, Thurlow Weed, William Lloyd Garrison, or Horace Greely, for he fought slavery a long time within the Democratic party and hoped to maintain his position and influence in that organization while making the battle. He soon found that the timber was too knotty to work, but not to split, and he put in his wedge and began the effort, which was successful. Without doubt he had more to do with the creation of the Republican party and the overthrow of the Democratic, than any other man. Mr. Wilmot was a strong, powerful force in starting the combat which finally resulted in the abolition of slavery. In the South his proviso made him despised by the slave-holder as an usurper and, indeed, the very school children were taught to hate him.

The slaves early learned his name and had, almost, more than an earthly reverence for him. "Mr. Wilmot was a man of strong convictions, and outspoken in the expression of his opinions—a man greatly loved by his friends and unsparingly hated by his enemies. He was a powerful speaker, keen in debate, carrying with him the hearts of his hearers, and producing conviction in others frequently by the strength of his own." But Mr. Wilmot's end is sad. Continued ill health affected his mind and he finally died of softening of the brain, at his residence in Towanda, in 1868. He is buried in "Riverside Cemetery," and his resting place is marked by a plain slab on which is inscribed :

"DAVID WILMOT,

Born

Jan. 20, 1814,

Died

March 16, 1868,

Aged 54 years."

"Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in any part of said territory, except for crime, whereof the party shall be duly convicted."

What epitaph could be more appropriate?—His own immortal proviso, that gave him a national celebrity and made him idolized by nearly four millions of slaves. No man has ever lived in old Bradford who so nearly became the idol of the people as he, nor had so great an influence over them. Wilmot township is so named in his honor.

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HON. ULYSSES MERCUR.

Hon. Ulysses Mercur, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, was born at Towanda, Aug. 12, 1818. He was the fourth son of Henry and Mary Watts Mercur. After having received his preparatory education, he entered Jefferson College, Cannonsburg, Washington Co., Pa., at the age of twenty. In college he was noted for his studiousness and extraordinary perceptive faculties. In his junior year he was chosen disputant of his class society in a joint discussion with the senior society, of which the late Clement L. Vallandigham was disputant. The discussion was decided in Mercur's favor, which so annoyed Vallandigham that he resolved not to leave college until he had another opportunity of crossing swords with his rival of the junior class. The opportunity was given him and he was again worsted, Mr. Mercur coming off victorious the second time. During his last year in college Mr. Mercur found that the mastery of his studies did not require all his time, and having decided to adopt the law as a profession, entered the office of Hon. Thos. M. T. McKennan, author of the "Tariff of '42," and father of Judge McKennan, of the United States District Court. After graduating with high honors he returned to his home in Towanda, where he entered the law office of Edward Overton, Esq., one of the most able lawyers of Northern Pennsylvania at that time, to complete his legal studies.

Such confidence had Mr. Overton in the young man's ability that he made him an equal partner in the profits of the business, as soon as he should enter his office. After a year with Mr. Overton he was admitted to the bar. His intuitive love for the profession and thorough knowledge of "the books," acquired by close study, were supplemented by strict attention to business and untiring industry—virtues which seldom fail of success. On accession to the bar he was brought into contact with such able and distinguished attorneys as Edward Overton, Judge Williston, William Elwell, William Watkins, David Wilmot, and others, who rendered the bar of Bradford county famous for ability and personal worth. The young member soon reached the front rank, and before he had been many years in practice was acknowledged the peer of his ablest associates. As a practitioner he was conscientious and never advised litigation merely to get "a retainer." After a client had repeated his case, if hopeless, Mr. Mercur would inform him that he was wrong and that he could not take it. "But I will pay you well for your services, Mr. Mercur." "You are wrong, sir! and I don't want your case at any price." This reputation won for him the most implicit confidence of the people, and few important cases were tried in court while he was practicing at the bar that he was not employed in. It is no flattery to say that as a young lawyer he was unsurpassed in the State. As an evidence of Mr. Mercur's transparent candor and honesty in his relation to clients and his desire to impress upon students the sacred obligation to profound secrecy and fidelity in their business relations with those by whom they might be professionally employed, it is said that he never retired to the "consultation room" with clients, but compelled them to state their cases in the presence of such students as were present—assuring them that anything they might disclose would never be repeated. One characteristic of Judge Mercur, remembered by the citizens of Towanda, is the untiring industry with which he labored at his profession. While Judge Wilmot, the lead-



ing lawyer in the town, who was always noted for a tendency to avoid close application to his desk was at the village store in the evening telling stories to the crowd of rustics, young Mercur was at his office writing deeds or poring over his books in search of authorities for use in court. "At any hour," said an old citizen of Towanda recently, "Mercur could be found at his office. In those days I used to go home very late at night, and there was always a light in his office." Judge Wilmot was strong with a jury, but he relied upon an infinite fund of wit and turning to use some trifling circumstance brought out at the trial, but Judge Mercur studied cases thoroughly and always went into court prepared. Seventeen years of close application to his extensive business told on his constitution, and in the winter of 1860-61, he was compelled to give up work for several months, and that respite restored his health and gave him a new lease of life, which abstemious habits and careful observance of the laws of health have protected since. On the election of Judge Wilmot to the United States Senate in Jan. 1861, he resigned the president Judgeship of the 12th Judicial District, and Mr. Mercur was appointed to fill the vacancy. He discharged the onerous duties with such entire acceptability to the bar and people, that at the ensuing election he was chosen for a full term without opposition, the district being composed of the counties of Bradford and Susquehanna. In 1862 a division in the Republican party in the Congressional district composed of the counties of Bradford, Columbia, Montour, Sullivan and Wyoming, resulted in the defeat of the regular nominee. To prevent a similar disaster in 1864, Mr. Mercur was prevailed upon to accept a unanimous nomination, and was triumphantly elected, his opponent being Col. V. E. Piollet, also of Bradford. He was nominated for three consecutive terms, and before the expiration of his fourth term, in 1872, was nominated by the Republican State Convention for Judge of the Supreme Court. Mr. Mercur accepted a fourth nomination to Congress only because he

wished to use his influence in the repeal of the law imposing a duty on tea and coffee, also the law giving a portion of the penalty, for violation of the revenue law, to the informant.

Of Judge Mercur's reputation on the bench and in Congress it is unnecessary to speak, and we shall only remark in passing that his record is an honor to his constituents, and one of which any generation might justly feel proud. His public record is singularly free from demagoguery and tricks of the average politician, while in his private life he is as pure as the mountain stream. His political advancements, like his business success, are solely due to marked ability and personal worth. During his nearly quarter of a century in public life his bitterest political opponents have never even intimated anything derogatory to his honor as a gentleman and strict fidelity to the trusts confided to his keeping.

His eminence as a jurist was evinced in his nomination for the high position he now holds, without having canvassed for the office, over some of the ablest judges in the State.

In Congress Judge Mercur was not a "talking member," though he has few equals in debate, but was looked up to as one of the most useful Representatives. He was a member of the Judiciary Committee, and took an active part in preparing the reconstruction measures rendered necessary by the secession of the Southern States. It was during the discussion on one of the bills on that subject that he made use of this memorable sentence: "If they (the people of the States lately in rebellion) will not respect the stars they must feel the stripes of our glorious flag." One important measure which he was instrumental in passing through Congress deserves to be placed beside the Wilmot proviso and Grow's homestead bill. We refer to the act exempting tea and coffee from duty, thus reducing the price of these almost necessary articles of diet, which are needed alike by the rich and poor.

In politics Judge Mercur was originally a Democrat

(though his brothers were all active Whigs), adhering to the Free Soil wing of the party, having been educated in the same political school with Wilmot and Grow. He was one of the first to protest against the scheme to enslave Kansas and Nebraska, and took an active part in the organization of the Republican party, which we believe had its birth in Towanda as early as February, 1855, when a meeting was called to give expression to the indignation of the people of the North at the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. He was also a delegate to the preliminary State Convention in Pittsburg, and an elector on the Lincoln ticket in 1860.

Judge Wilmot always esteemed him his friend and confidential adviser in politics as well as legal affairs. When Wilmot was invited by President Lincoln, in the Spring of 1861, to act as Peace Commissioner at Washington, before accepting the appointment he visited Judge Mercur, and after a full consultation decided to go and, to use his own words, "try to prevent a patched up compromise," which would leave the difference between the two sections of the Union as far from being settled as before.

In 1850 Judge Mercur married Miss Sarah S. Davis, daughter of the late Gen. John Davis, of Bucks county, and his domestic life has been very happy. Five children have been born to him, all of whom are still living. The eldest, Rodney A., is an eminent lawyer at Towanda; two other sons, Dr. John D. and James W., attorney at law, reside in Philadelphia. The only daughter married Col. B. F. Eshelman, of Lancaster.

The Sabbath seldom fails to find the Judge in the house of worship. His family are connected with the Episcopal Church, and he is a liberal supporter and constant attendant upon the services of the church.

As Chief Justice (since January, 1883,) we prophesy for Judge Mercur the same eminence and distinction attained in the other stations he has been called upon to fill, and that the historian of the Judiciary of the Commonwealth will write him among the ablest, wisest and purest who have

worn the judicial ermine and adorned the Supreme Bench.

Though in his sixty-eighth year, the Judge is yet in possession of clear, unclouded mental vision and vigorous, well-preserved physical health—literally having “a sound mind in a healthy body.” The industrious habits of younger days still cling to him, and during the short recesses of court which he spends at his elegant residence in Towanda, he is not often seen idle but busies himself in the investigation of intricate legal questions, writing out opinions, etc.

Genuine sociability and hospitality are family characteristics, and the Judge is not lacking in these qualities. He is always “at home” to his friends and is one of the most entertaining of hosts.

From honest convictions he is a pronounced, thorough Republican, but is not a bigot and always treats his political adversary with gentlemanly respect. Some of his greatest admirers and warmest personal friends are not members of his political household.

The old “Wilmot district” has never produced a man of whom the people have greater reason to feel proud, nor one who will ever have a warmer place in their hearts than Judge Mercur.

#### ELISHA SHELDON GOODRICH

Was born in Walton, Delaware county, N. Y., Aug. 15, 1810. Soon after his birth—the same year—his father, Elnathan Goodrich, removed with his family to Columbia township, Bradford county, where Elisha grew to man's estate. In his younger days he engaged in school teaching, and at a suitable age, married a daughter of Deacon Parsons, of Columbia.

The following biographical notice, which appeared in the *Bradford Reporter*, at the instance of his death, in 1862, will be found interesting: “At an early age he was called into public life, and in various capacities served the public the greater part of his life. In 1831 he was appointed Reg-

ister and Recorder of Bradford county by Governor Wolf, whereupon he took up his residence at the county-seat. He held this office for five years, during which time he was appointed a Justice-of-the-Peace of Towanda borough. In 1844 he was chosen Transcribing Clerk of the State Senate and held the office one session. He was chosen Chief Clerk in 1845 and re-elected in 1846. In 1852 he was appointed Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth under Governor Bigler, and held the office until 1855. In most of his private enterprises he was a prominent man before the public. In 1835 he purchased the *Northern Banner*, which he published for about two years, then sold it and engaged in the mercantile business. He afterwards, in 1840, started a new paper styled the *Porter*, subsequently *Re-Porter*, with which he remained connected for several years. In 1859 he purchased the *Luzerne Federalist* and continued the paper, until failing health compelled him to turn it over to other hands.

He returned to Towanda in 1860 to spend the residue of his days. In all his varied positions before the public Mr. Goodrich proved himself worthy of the confidence, and secured the esteem of his fellow-citizens. But few men have filled offices of public trust so long, and retired, finally, with a deeper or more general respect and esteem of all parties, than he.

As a writer he was clear, logical and weighty. He seldom employed irony, but when he did, it was with a withering effect. Argument was his forte. In whatever theme he chose for discussion his language was found to be chaste and his thoughts pure. In all his relations he was the same upright, generous, high-minded gentleman. He was not an avaricious lover of money, nor was he exacting with others, to subserve his own prospects; rather, he found pleasure in contributing to the happiness of others. In religion, his profession was not merely of *form* or *impulse*; but his was the religion of the understanding as well as of the heart.

Mr. Goodrich was twice married and was most happy in

his connubial relations. He was a kind and indulgent father and a tender and loving husband. His demise occurred at Towanda June, 1862. The large concourse at the funeral testified the respect and esteem in which he was held, and the sympathy that was felt for the bereaved."

He left two sons, *E. O'Meara*, of whom a sketch is herein given, and *Hiram*, who was an engineer upon 'the North Branch Canal and Assistant Surveyor of the port of Philadelphia, under his brother. The father and sons are buried in the family lot in Riverside Cemetery.

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HON. JAMES TRACY HALE,

Who attained the honorable distinction of Judge, was born upon the patrimonial estate in Towanda township, Oct. 14, 1810. He was a most assiduous youth, and in early boyhood became passionately fond of books, improving every spare moment in earnest study. He read only useful and instructive books and papers, and these he remembered. Though his educational advantages were limited, before he was one-and-twenty he had acquired a wonderful fund of knowledge. He taught school several terms, and wrote in the Prothonotary's office as he could get occasional jobs.

When he was but fifteen years of age the death of his father devolved the chief support of the family upon him, a relation which he discharged most faithfully. Having concluded to make his profession, he entered upon his studies under the direction of his uncle, Elias W. Hale, of Lewistown, Pa., and was admitted to the bar of Mifflin county in February, 1832. In 1835 he moved to Bellefonte, where he married the same year Miss Jane W. Huston, daughter of Hon. Chas. Huston, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He rose rapidly in the profession, and soon occupied a leading and prominent position at the bar. In his maiden efforts a good story is told of him. He had a case before Judge Burnside. A point of law was in question. The judge decided against him, young Hale, how-

ever, persisting that he should be sustained. Finally, the judge turned aside and remarked sneeringly "that he had forgotten more law than the young man had ever known." Meeting the rebuke calmly, young Hale addressed "his Honor" very moderately, saying: "True, Judge, that is the fault we find; you have forgotten too much." Turning to the law and reading to the Court, the young man made his point so clear that he changed the opinion of the judge. He was engaged in the trial of all the principal land cases tried in the several courts of Mifflin, Clearfield, Centre, Juniata and Clinton counties until April, 1851, when he was appointed President Judge of what is now the twenty-fifth judicial district, to fill a vacancy.

He held the position only until Dec. 1851. But he discharged the duties with such dispatch, ability and impartiality, that he achieved a most excellent reputation as a jurist. He resumed his practice on retiring from the bench, and continued it until about 1856, when other enterprises engrossed his attention to the exclusion to a great extent of his professional business. He embarked his means, industry, energy and financial skill in the construction of the Tyrone and Clearfield Railroad, of which he was president for four years. He carried the road through the financial crisis of 1857, notwithstanding great difficulties and embarrassments, completing it and putting it into running order about 1859. It remains a monument to the enterprise, energy, perseverance, and skill of Judge Hale, more durable than granite.

Judge Hale was an ardent Whig in politics, and was a successful advocate of the principles of his party and a popular stump speaker. When that party gave way to the Republican organization he united with the latter, and in 1858 was elected to Congress from the 18th Congressional District. He was re-elected in 1860, and again in 1862, in the latter year being presented as "the people's candidate," receiving more votes than both his Democratic and Republican opponents combined. Being in Congress when the

dark clouds of disunion began to gather, and not being an extremist, he was made a member of the celebrated *Peace Commission*, which proved fruitless of results in trying to avert war. He retired from Congress in March, 1865, and immediately resumed his professional calling. So desirable were his services and so extensive was his practice, that he was compelled to refuse many desirable cases offered him. Judge Hale was a pleasing man and a sound and logical debater. After a brief illness he died at his home in Bellefonte on the 6th of April, 1865. His wealth amounted to over half a million. He inherited the homestead and for many summers spent his vacations there.

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#### EDWARD OVERTON.

The subject of this sketch was born in Clitheroe, Lincolnshire, England, Dec. 30, 1795. Early in life he received a good English and classical education, and by the assistance of his uncle, Giles Blaisdell, an eminent English lawyer, was prepared, at the age of sixteen, to commence the study of law, and shortly after was articled to him for five years as a student under his instruction, the articles of enrollment being recorded in the King's Bench, with a stamp duty of one hundred pounds sterling. At the age of twenty he emigrated to America, first coming to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where very soon after he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas of the State. He had naturally a legal mind, and in an examination made by Judges Gibson and Burnside and Garrick Mallery, he showed a sound knowledge of the principles of the law.

When about twenty-two years of age he opened an office for the practice of his profession at Tioga Point (Athens), where he remained three years, then came to Towanda where he spent the balance of his life. Soon after taking up his residence in Towanda he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State.

Now fully established in a profession for life, and one to



which his natural ability seemed adapted, he gradually gained prominence in the courts where he pleaded and rose to the foremost ranks of the bar of the county and State as an attorney and counsellor.

Beginning the practice of the law in the early days of the history of the county, he was very notably identified with the litigation respecting land titles growing out of the Connecticut claims covering the northern part of Pennsylvania, and the imperfect surveys of State claimants, in which litigation he was foremost as a land lawyer.

Politically Mr. Overton was originally a Whig, but upon the formation of the Republican party adopted its principles and became an ardent supporter of its platform. He was never solicitous for public office, neither did he shrink from bearing with integrity any responsibility placed upon him.

Mr. Overton did not confine his business to the bar alone. In 1852-53 he induced John Ely and Edward M. Davis, of Philadelphia, to join with him in the purchase of twenty thousand acres of the Barclay lands. Having effected a purchase, the result was the organization of the Barclay coal company. Seeing that but little could be accomplished without a railroad, Mr. Overton exerted his influence and succeeded in the building of the Barclay road, and was made its first President—a capacity in which he continued to act for several years, until he sold his interest in the company. In addition to his interests as herein stated, he besides owned several thousand acres of land in the townships of Burlington, Herrick, Pike and Overton—the last named being so called in his honor.

In his old age Mr. Overton wisely enjoyed the comforts which his fine fortune afforded him.

Through life he took a deep interest in matters relating to church and school, contributing largely in the building of church edifices, and the forwarding of any enterprise promoting the education of the rising generation and the establishment of good society. From the time of his first settlement in Towanda village he was a member of the

Presbyterian Church, and he always showed a fervent attachment to its articles of faith and laws of government. Throughout its history this church has been greatly indebted to him for generous and unceasing counsel and help, and all the schemes of benevolence of the Presbyterian Church in the United States have found in him a liberal benefactor. Another prominent characteristic was his open hand for the poor and distressed.

To eminent legal ability and learning he added in early life the refinement and amenity of poetic and social culture. During his long and varied career he was signally successful in maintaining a high reputation for honor and honesty. He was the son of Thomas Overton, referred to in this volume, and one of the early settlers of Ulster, who was a man of much enterprise and activity, and for many years was agent for Carroll and other land owners. For many years he kept a public house. He died suddenly and is buried at Ulster.

In the year 1818 Mr. Overton married Miss Eliza, daughter of Henry Clymer, of Philadelphia, and grand-daughter of Hon. Geo. Clymer, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, one of the framers of the Constitution of the United States, and the first President of the Academy of Fine Arts of Pennsylvania. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Overton were born : Mary (Mrs. James Macfarlane), Giles Blaisdell, Henry Clymer, Louisa (Mrs. James Ward), Francis Clymer (deceased), Edward Jr., and Eliza, the wife of evangelist E. P. Hammond.

*Giles B.* is a resident of Olean, N. Y., and is engaged in the coal business.

*Henry C.* is a farmer at Cobden, Ill.

*Hon. Edward, Jr.*, is a resident of his native town. He chose law as his profession and was admitted to practice in the courts of Bradford county in 1858, and subsequently in the courts of the counties of Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Lycoming, Luzerne, and Wyoming. In 1867 he was also admitted to the U. S. Circuit and District Courts of the

Western District of Pennsylvania, and about the same time to the Supreme Court of the State. Mr. Overton is an able lawyer, and is not only one of the foremost at the Bradford county bar, but ranks well with the best in the State. In 1878 he formed a co-partnership with John F. Sanderson, Esq., one of the most thorough and sound young lawyers in Pennsylvania. The firm have been eminently successful, and have tried not a few of the "big cases" in the Supreme and District Courts. From 1866 to 1877 Mr. Overton was Register in Bankruptcy, and during that time was never reversed.

During the dark days of disunion he was one of the first to respond to his country's call, and upon the organization of the 50th regiment P. V., he was chosen Major and before the close of his enlistment made Lieutenant-Colonel. He did gallant service and was severely wounded at the battle of Antietam. After the war he returned to Towanda and resumed the practice of his profession. In 1876 he was elected to Congress from the 15th District, and re-elected in 1878, proving an able and useful Representative of the people.

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#### JOHN C. ADAMS.

The subject of this notice was born in New Marlborough, Berkshire county, Mass., Aug. 28, 1812. He was the eldest son of a family of four children of Charles Adams, of New England birth and of English descent. His early life was spent on the farm with his father, securing only the benefit of a common-school education, but this so impressed his mind with the importance of an education that, while in the field at work, or during any leisure time, he was a constant student, and very early in life gave unmistakable evidence of the possession of much intellectual ability. While yet in his teens he became a teacher, and taught school during winters, and with his earnings spent his time in school during summers. When twenty years of age he began the

study of the law with Benjamin Sheldon, father of Judge Sheldon, of Illinois. Afterwards he came to Barrington and continued his studies, and at about the age of twenty-two came to Wilkes-Barre, and entered the law office of Judge Cunningham, but finished his study of the law with the late Judge Wilmot and was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State at the age of twenty-four. He at once opened an office, in partnership with Edward Overton of Towanda, with whom he continued in that relation for several years. He was afterwards a partner with Judge Mercur and others, and continued the practice of his profession in Towanda until his death, June 18, 1866. From the time of his admission to the bar up to the time of his death he occupied a high position among his professional brethren, and as a forcible and persuasive speaker, especially in cases where the sympathies of a jury could be reached, he was unequalled by any member of the Bradford county bar. His plain Anglo-Saxon vocabulary conveyed his meaning unmistakably, and at such times it was a frequent occurrence for both jury and bystanders to be bathed in tears. Both in his professional and private business he was scrupulously honest, always regarding the oath he had taken "to behave himself in his office as attorney with all good fidelity to the Court as to the client." His honesty was not of the kind that it is a shame for a man to be without, but was iron-wrought in his very being, and for him to have done a dishonorable act would have been doing violence to every inclination of his nature. And then, again, his warm, sympathetic nature led him at all times to discourage litigation, and his energies were directed, first, to preventing it by painstaking and careful preparation of the papers he was called upon to write, and the admirable manner in which he executed the other business entrusted to him; and in case litigation had been or was about to be commenced, he bent all his energies to bring about, if possible, an amicable settlement. Few men leave a brighter professional record behind them. Politically Mr. Adams was a Whig and was one

of the leaders of that party in the county. He was placed in nomination by that party, at different times, as its candidate for Representative and Congress, but being in the minority party was always defeated. However, his name always gave strength to the ticket. Upon the organization of the Republican party he remained with the "Silver Grays," supporting Fillmore in 1856 and Bell and Everett in 1860.

In the year 1837 he married Miss Lucy M. Pynchon, of Great Barrington, Mass. To Mr. and Mrs. Adams were born five children: *John*, residing at Towanda; *Henry M.*, Lieutenant of Co. I, 57th P. V., and killed before Petersburg; *Samuel C.*, engaged in the coal business at Syracuse, N. Y.; *Lucy*, deceased; *Mary E.*, the wife of Benjamin Maurice.

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#### CHRISTOPHER L. WARD,

The eldest son of William Ward and Sally Briggs, was born in New Milford, Susquehanna Co., Pa., Oct. 23, 1807. Of his ancestry on the paternal side, the race is traceable to English and thence to Norman origin. The first of the Wards landed in New England in 1640, since which time different branches of the family have spread throughout the Eastern and Middle States. William Ward was a pioneer into the county of Susquehanna and was a prominent and useful citizen. The subject of this sketch received the rudiments of an education in such schools as were afforded in early days. But being possessed of paternal industry, he steadily pushed his way from these humble beginnings and became in early life noted for his retiring and studious ways, his application to books and thirst for knowledge. Going to Montrose, he learned the printing trade and in 1831 became a partner in and editor of the *Susquehanna Register*, in which capacity he continued to act till 1836. In 1831 he was appointed County Treasurer and in 1833 Register and Recorder. He was President of the Young Men's Temperance Union in 1834. In 1837 he was admitted to the bar

from the office of Hon. Wm. Jessup, in the practice of the law, and became subsequently associated with Hon. Benj. S. Bentley. He was elected a director of the Susquehanna Bank in 1837. In 1840 he came to Towanda and purchased the Tousey residence on Third street, which is now occupied by the "Sisters of Mercy."

At Towanda Mr. Ward embarked in business with his customary industry and energy, and took a leading rank as a liberal-minded, hospitable, charitable and public-spirited citizen. He acquired considerable property in the town and in this and neighboring counties, and became agent and attorney for the Cadwallader lands in Sullivan, and the Carroll-Caton lands in Bradford county, besides enjoying numerous trusts of minor character. His acquisitions in real estate extended to North Carolina, Tennessee, and into Illinois and New York. In 1853 he was sent on a special mission by Secretary of State Marcy, under President Pierce, to Mexico on matters relating to the Gadsden Treaty. About the same time he became counsel for the American claimants, under the treaty, for indemnity for Mexican indebtedness, and was largely interested in establishing the validity of the Garey grant for a railway route across the isthmus of Tehuantepec. In 1856 he was chairman of the National Executive Committee in the campaign which resulted in the election of Mr. Buchanan. In 1855 he was elected President of the Atlantic & Great Western Railway, and in 1858 proceeded to Europe to negotiate its securities and enlist foreign investment in the enterprise. This he succeeded in accomplishing, placing the road on a footing that subsequently secured its construction. In 1864 he was chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee. He was a director and officer of the Towanda Tanning Company and also the Schrader Land Company. Among the valuable properties acquired by him was what now constitutes the township of Ward, in Tioga county, originally 15,500 acres, and covering the mines of the Fall Brook Coal company.

In his latter years, much of his time was employed in managing systematically his multifarious business affairs, and in arranging his collection of prints and autographs and illustrating works of biographical and historical character contained in his library. From time to time he interested himself in and sustained several newspapers—the *Patriot and Union*, Harrisburg; the *Baltimore Leader*; the *Evening Press*, of Washington, D. C., latterly combined with the *National Intelligencer*, amongst the rest. His collection of rare books, engravings, autographs and works in every department of literature and science, arranged in the handsome library room of "Tredinnock," with its walls hung with trophies of feudal times, and historical reliques, American and foreign, formed a unique assemblage of objects of art, history and entertainment, and gave evidence of a range of information and a vast mastery of detail seldom met with in a man of active and constant business habits and pursuits. Up to the day of his death Mr. Ward was associated with almost every prominent enterprise or work of public moment undertaken in the vicinity wherein he had chosen his last abode. His correspondence and acquaintance with public men, men of letters, capitalists, and men of professional prominence, was intimate and extensive. He attended almost all the political conventions, State and National, of his party as a delegate, and took an active and advisory part in politics, though persistently avoiding public office. His hand and purse were always at the command of his political friends and were freely presumed upon.

Mr. Ward was a gentleman of rare accomplishments and was ever a prominent and influential citizen. He was twice married. His first wife, Hannah Raynsford, of Montrose, bore him two daughters—*Ellen*, who married Gen. Wm. H. Miller, of Harrisburg; *Mary*, who died when a young lady. His second wife was Hannah Charlotte Porter (sister of Henry C.), of Waterbury, Conn., who bore him a son, *Henry*, who is still living.

Mr. Ward died May 14, 1870, and is buried at "Riverside."

## ELIJAH A. PARSONS

Was born in Columbia township, Bradford county, July 12, 1820. His father, Daniel K. Parsons, was the son of Deacon Eli Parsons, a Revolutionary soldier, who emigrated from the State of Connecticut with his family to Columbia in the year 1799.

Elijah's early days were spent in the usual routine of a farmer's boy.

In 1835 he came to Towanda to live with his uncle, E. S. Goodrich, who was then conducting the *Northern Banner*, and to learn the printing art. He remained with Mr. Goodrich for about three years, working in the office and attending school alternately. He then went to work upon the *Bradford Argus*, which was being published by his brother-in-law, Dummer Lilley.

In 1839 Mr. Parsons and B. F. Powell bought a half-interest in the *Argus*, and Col. Elhanan Smith the balance. In 1841 Smith sold to Parsons & Powell, and Powell to Parsons in 1851, whereupon the latter became the sole proprietor of the paper. Mr. Parsons labored zealously through his columns for the Whig party, at that time the minority party of the county, until it went out of existence. He next conducted the *Argus* as a Republican paper until 1862, when it withdrew from the Republican cause and supported the "People's ticket," and finally, in 1864, became a Democratic organ.

In 1866 Mr. Parsons placed his son, E. Ashmun, in charge of the paper, who enlarged it, put in steam power, and otherwise improved it.

The *Argus* has been immutable in its politics, and for twenty-two years has been the only organ of the Democratic party in the county. Since the foundation of the *Argus* other Democratic papers have sprung up, but existed only as an ephemera, owing to the strong Republican majority in the county. Alone has the pluck of the Messrs. Parsons fired their Democratic brethren with hope, and finally carried them on to victory.



The *Argus* is a welcome visitor at fifteen hundred firesides, and has become an indispensable article. Since Mr. Parson's advocacy of Democratic principles he has been fair and consistent, gaining the confidence of his party and retaining the esteem of his former political associates. But few men have ever had more friends among the party they sought to overthrow than "Judge Parsons." His good-natured, frank manner is always manifested alike in political victories and reverses. The "Judge" has been a man of great industry and has given his undivided attention to the printing business, being at this time the senior printer in Northern Pennsylvania.

As a just reward for the services rendered his party, upon the succession of the Democratic administration he was appointed postmaster at Towanda, and took charge of the office December 1, 1885.

In 1845 Mr. Parsons was united in marriage with Miss Ethlin A., daughter of Jesse Brown, of Sheshequin, unto whom six children have been born, viz: E. Ashmun, Maria, Matthias W., Mary, Antoinette D. and George F.

The eldest son has for twenty years been the successful editor and manager of the *Argus*; Matthias is a druggist in New York, and George is a prosperous optician in the same city. In 1877 Mr. Parsons suffered the loss of his devoted and loving companion. Looking upon the bright side, with perfect health, "Judge Parsons" will no doubt live many years longer to cheer us.

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#### HENRY J. MADILL

Was born March 30, 1829, at Hunterstown, Adams county, Pa. His parents were Scotch-Irish and were born in Ireland. His father, Alexander Madill, was educated as a physician before emigrating to this country, and came to this county and located in Wysox township in 1831, where he practiced medicine for many years.

Henry J. received a liberal education; he was a student

at the "old academy," on State street, while Professors Gunn and Nash were the instructors; he also received instruction from private tutors. He studied law with John C. Adams, Esq., and was admitted to the bar of Bradford county in 1851, and has practiced his profession since.

He was one of the first to answer to the call of President Lincoln for troops, and upon the arrival of two companies from this county at Harrisburg, and finding that they could not be received for three months, were mustered into the U. S. service for three years, and upon the organization of the regiment he was elected Major of the regiment—the 6th Pa. Reserves—June 22, 1861.

He served with his regiment with distinction until August 30, 1862, when he was appointed Colonel of the 141st Pa. Vols.

Seven companies of this regiment were organized in Bradford county, and the selection of Major Madill to command the regiment was a recognition of his former service and his fitness to lead the "boys" from Bradford county.

He commanded his regiment during the campaigns of the Army of the Potomac of 1863 and 1864, and was engaged in the great battles at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, and the siege of Petersburg, and at various times was placed in command of the brigade. He was complimented by his superior officers for his conduct at the battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was brevetted Brigadier-General, Dec. 2, 1864, and by special order of the President appointed to command a brigade.

He was assigned by General Miles to the command of the Third Brigade, First Division, Second Corps, and was wounded while leading his brigade at Sutherland Station, Va., April 2, 1865. He was brevetted Major-General of Volunteers, March 15, 1865. During his four years' service he was in over 20 battles, had six horses shot under him, and was wounded three times—June 16 and 18, 1864, at Petersburg, Va., and April 2, 1865, at Sutherland Station, Va.

In battle he was brave and fearless, and always ready to lead his men. The officers and men of his command loved and respected him, and were ready to follow wherever he led them.

At the battle of Chancellorsville, when his men were driven back and the color-bearer had been shot, he picked up the flag, faced towards the enemy and began singing—

“ Rally round the flag, boys,  
Rally once again !”—

under a storm of lead and shell, around which the men rallied and repelled the charge of the enemy. When at the battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863, General Sickles appealed to Colonel Madill, “for God’s sake to hold on a little longer!” the Colonel sobbingly replied, “Where are my men?” he having but twenty left of the two hundred he took into the battle.

“In camp he secured obedience without resort to cruel punishments, and at all times was watchful for the interest of his men. Although fearless of danger himself, he never exposed his men needlessly, and never sought a fight to promote his own interest.” Several times he was offered promotion if he would attempt a desperate charge, to which he replied, “If I must gain a star at the expense of the lives of my men, I will never have one.”

He resumed his law practice after he was mustered out of the service. He was elected to the office of Register, Recorder, and Clerk of Orphans’ Court of Bradford county in 1866 and served for three years. He served one term in the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, having been elected in 1879.

He attained the highest rank of any soldier from Bradford county in the War of the Rebellion, and was one of the bravest and most fearless of officers in the army, and is highly esteemed by all the ex-soldiers for his fearless advocacy of their rights since the war, as well as his soldierly advice for their welfare, given at camp-fires and reunions.

## JOHN LAPORTE

Was born in Asylum on the patrimonial estate, and was the only son of Bartholomew Laporte, one of the French refugees from the proscriptions of the French Revolution of 1798. Bartholomew was a sailor, and on his return to Cadiz from a certain voyage learned of the condition of things in France, and at once sailed for America. He married a daughter of Maj. Oliver Dodge, a Revolutionary veteran. John's early life was spent in farming. Politics had a great fascination for him, and as soon as old enough he took an active hand on the Democratic side of the house, and allied with General McKean. He represented the county in the State Legislature from 1829 to 1832, and was Speaker of the House in the year last named. In 1834 he was elected to Congress, and in 1837 was appointed an Associate Judge of the county and held the office continuously till 1845. At the expiration of his term of office as Judge, he was appointed Surveyor-General by Gov. Shunk, and held the office for six years (till 1851). Judge Laporte remained with the Democratic party until 1855, when he assisted in the formation of the Republican, and remained loyal to its principles till the time of his death in 1862. In about 1850 he came to Towanda, engaged in the banking business, and spent his closing days. Judge Laporte was a man of ability and integrity and in his day stood among the foremost in the county. He was twice married. His first wife was Matilda, daughter of Dr. Jabez Chamberlain, who bore him Hon. Bartholomew of Asylum; Elizabeth (Mrs. C. F. Welles) deceased; Samuel McKean of Towanda. For his second wife he married the widow of Wm. Brindle, *nee* Eliza Caldwell. A daughter Eliza (Mrs. John R. Glover) was born unto them, (now dead).

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 ELNATHAN O'MEARA GOODRICH,

The eldest son of Elisha S. and Achsah Parsons Goodrich, was born in Columbia township, this county, June 23, 1824.

When about six years of age his parents removed to Towanda, which place he ever after made his home. Before he had attained his majority he was associated with his father in the publication of the *Bradford Reporter*, and in 1846 became sole proprietor of the paper, and continued its chief editor until the time of his demise. Mr. Goodrich was born, not made, an editor. He was a graceful, easy but pungent writer; honest in his convictions, fearless and independent in expressing his sentiments, and his paper has wielded a powerful influence and received the hearty endorsement of its patrons, while commanding the respect of its opponents. In addition to his gifts as an editor and writer, he possessed exquisite mechanical taste and skill, as the neat typographical appearance of the *Reporter*, which bore the impress of his genius in that direction, gave abundant evidence. In politics he carried the same justness and honor that characterized him in all other relations of life. Men felt that they had to do with a just and true man, whom no interest nor prejudice could induce to do a conscious, deliberate wrong. It has been remarked by an old friend that in politics Mr. Goodrich was always in favor of the open, honorable course; he wanted no concealment, no tricks; what was worth fighting for, in his judgment, was worth a fair, manly battle. Hence, in his hands the *Reporter* became a great power. It had much to do with the success of the Republican party in this county. It fell into line at the first bugle-call, and always stood in the front rank of the battle. In the Northern Tier—among the followers of David Wilmot—it occupied the first place of conspicuity and influence. In all home politics men waited anxiously to hear what the *Reporter* had to say. It was a necessary sequence that honor and office should wait upon such gifts and influence. Originally a Democrat he drifted into the free-soil current in 1848, but it was not until 1855 that he severed forever his connection with the party of his youthful devotion. It was a great risk, but he assumed it cheerfully because of principle, and subsequent events vin-

icated his sagacity. In union with such Democrats as David Wilmot, Ulysses Mercur, and John Laporte, he took a public stand against the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and in 1855 was a delegate to the convention at Pittsburgh which organized the National Republican party. Thus he became affiliated from the beginning with the Republican party and devoted to its success. All his time and talents were given to the cause. So, reasonably, the Republicans of the county felt that they owed him a debt of gratitude, and hence in 1860 was nominated for Prothonotary over a faithful and popular incumbent. Party feeling ran high at that time, and there were special complications within the Republican party of this county, but Mr. Goodrich was elected in spite of all difficulties; and before his term had expired so popular had he become that he was unanimously re-nominated and triumphantly re-elected. This was a great compliment, and was deserved by the patience and courtesy of the man who forebore to speak ill of his most unfair opponents. On the inauguration of General Grant in 1869 he was appointed Surveyor of Customs for the Port of Philadelphia, and was twice re-appointed and had he lived a month longer he would have held the office for twelve years. Such a long incumbency proves a high order of business capacity and a high degree of rectitude. A few years ago a Congressional committee examined the business of the office and highly commended its efficiency and correctness. He passed a severe ordeal with an untarnished reputation.

In truth, the abilities and character of Mr. Goodrich were such that he could not but succeed in whatever he undertook. He was scrupulously true and honest; he had the power to adapt himself to any circumstances; what he did he did promptly and thoroughly. His good name was of far more value in his estimation than any possible emoluments or gains. And his sound judgment and steady nerves were an unfailing source of success. His career illustrates the truth that success is in the man, not in his circumstances.

There was no good cause—no public interest—no local advantage, which he did not favor and promote. His hand was always open to the needy. He was always ready to encourage the struggling. The church upon which he attended found in him at all times a ready and generous helper; her ministers could always count upon his faithful friendship. All who were ever engaged in his service bear witness to his kindness, his consideration, and his helpful sympathy. In the public interests of Towanda he always showed himself a liberal-minded citizen and was frequently called to fill offices of trust in the borough. In especial, he manifested interest and pride in the fire department. His coolness, energy and strength well fitted him to be a leader in times and perils of fire; it was only the recognition of a natural leadership that placed him first on the list of Chief Engineers.

Socially, Mr. Goodrich was naturally of a retiring, diffident disposition, but his friendships were real, strong and enduring. Those who knew him well only could appreciate his worth. He was singularly free from hypocrisy and affectation, and it is highly complimentary to his memory that friends once attached to him were never lost. They relied upon his fidelity and wisdom, and were never disappointed. Throughout the State he had a wide acquaintance, and was always influential in the councils and conventions of his party. His death, which occurred Jan. 28, 1881, leaves a void that will be felt for years. But his memory will survive, and his deeds of kindness and love live after him. May those who take his place in the relations of business and politics, be actuated by the same inspirations and aspirations! At the age of twenty-one Mr. Goodrich was united in marriage with Miss Susanna O'Hara, of Binghamton, who with two daughters survive him to mourn their irreparable loss.

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HON. JOSEPH POWELL,

Son of Hon. Joseph C. and Selina Phillips Powell, was born

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in Towanda in 1828. He was reared upon his father's farm in North Towanda, and was given a common school and academic education. At the age of 18 he entered upon the mercantile pursuits as a clerk in the store of Thomas Elliott and in 1852 began business for himself, in which he has been eminently successful—that of general merchandising. In 1866 he became connected with the purchase of coal and timber lands in Bradford county, and as treasurer of the company managed its concerns. Upon the organization of the Towanda Tanning Company in 1866 he was made its Treasurer and remained with the business for several years. In 1863, for the convenience of the general public, the First National Bank of Towanda was organized, Mr. Powell, being one of the original stockholders. He was elected President in 1870, to fill a vacancy caused by the death of E. H. Smith, and has remained in the position ever since. In all these varied pursuits he has been uniformly successful, bringing to them the genius of common sense, intelligence and sound business principles. Mr. Powell is no politician, and has never sought office. He took issue with and separated from the Republican party on its reconstruction policy, and in 1874, without his knowledge and despite his declination, he was nominated for Congress by the Democrats of his district and elected in the face of a heavy Republican majority. In 1876 he was re-nominated, but owing to the overwhelming Republican majority in the district was defeated. From the fact of his popularity, with a view of winning in the contest of '83, he was chosen by the Democratic State Convention as their candidate for State Treasurer, but was again defeated, the Republican majority being too great to overcome. The Democrats having won in the national contest of '84, upon their distribution of the federal offices Mr. Powell was tendered the place of Deputy Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, which he accepted, and December 1, 1885, assumed his duties. Mr. Powell is a pleasant and social gentleman of dignified manners, popular with all classes. He was united in marriage, in 1859,



with a step-daughter of Hon. H. W. Tracy. Four daughters and one son complete the family.

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#### ORRIN D. BARTLETT

Was born in Berkshire county, Mass., Aug. 30, 1814. His lineage has been given in a preceding chapter. At the age of ten years he came to Bradford county, with his father's family, which he has ever since made his home. While living in the East he had enjoyed the advantages of good schools, and was an advanced pupil, for the times, when he left the "Old Bay State." However, he pursued his studies and gathered such new ideas as were advanced by the pedagogues of Towanda sixty years ago, then went to Homer, N. Y., and completed his schooling at the Cortland Academy. At the age of seventeen he took a position as clerk with Thomas Elliott. After remaining here for about a year, he went (1832) to Wilkes-Barre, engaged in the mercantile trade, and returned to Towanda in the fall of 1833, where he soon after re-engaged in the same business. He became a prominent merchant, and for many years did business on the ground now occupied by the First National Bank and C. P. Welles's store. About 1861 he sold out his store, and purchased the foundry originally started by Enos Tompkins. He improved and enlarged the facilities and erected the buildings which are now occupied by the Eureka Mfg. Co. Since quitting the latter business Mr. Bartlett has been largely engaged in life and fire insurance, having been a special traveling agent and adjuster for several years.

Mr. Bartlett has been an active, enterprising man, and has done much for the prosperity of the town. He has always taken a commendable pride in educational matters, and was a liberal contributor, before he had attained his majority, toward the building of the old academy. In supporting the churches he has been a liberal donor and an active member.

For a number of years he was prominently connected with politics, and being thoroughly versed in the issues of the

day and an easy and pleasing speaker, took an active part in the Republican campaigns.

Mr. Bartlett is a man of fine intelligence, a good conversationalist and *litterateur*. He has been twice married. His first wife was Mary, daughter of Dr. John N. Weston, a most estimable lady. After the death of "Mary Weston," he married Miss Sarah F. Tracy, of Wilkes-Barre, whose death he also mourns. His children are *Franklin W.*, an Episcopal clergyman, rector of Grace Church, Syracuse, N. Y.; *Henry A.*, physician at Sugar Run, Pa.; *Charles G.*, residing at Pittsburgh; *Mary F.*, the wife of E. O. Macfarlane, of Towanda; *Harriet*, the wife of Walter G. Tracy, of Towanda; and *Cora*, wife of Norman Eichleberger, residing at Mansfield, Ohio.

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#### COL. JOHN FOX MEANS

Was born in Towanda village, Oct. 6, 1816, and has always resided within the borough limits. He was the only child of William Means, Jr., and Eunice Hewitt. In his boyhood days he enjoyed the privileges of such schools as were then afforded. At the age of twenty-one he engaged in the mercantile trade in the same store which had been occupied by his grandfather.

In 1838 he erected a brick building on the opposite corner and occupied it as a store and dwelling. It was afterwards enlarged and used as a hotel, being known as the "Means House," until it was destroyed by fire in 1878.

In 1842-43 Mr. Means disengaged in the mercantile business, and for some years gave attention to lumbering and farming. He was a contractor upon the North Branch canal and also upon the Williamsport & Elmira railroad. Upon the organization of the Towanda Iron Manufacturing Company he was made its president, and was one of the original stockholders of the Eureka Manufacturing Company. For the improvement of the town he has erected a number of buildings, and some of the finest in it.

Mr. Means has been somewhat conspicuous in politics, always a zealous worker in the Democratic ranks, and in 1845 was elected to the office of Sheriff by his party. In the several projects for the material prosperity of the town, he has been a prominent factor and suffered great losses thereby.

He was made Colonel of the Pennsylvania militia, whence he gets the title by which he is generally addressed. He was joined in marriage with Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Col. Hiram Mix, in 1835. and their matrimonial relations proved most pleasant.

Col. Means, though a man of three score and ten, is possessed of strong physical vigor and mental activity. However, he has retired from active life, and usually spends the winters upon his orange farm in "The Land of Flowers." He married for his second wife Mrs. Elsie Sherman.

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#### HON. PAUL DUDLEY MORROW

Was born in what is now Wilmot township, Bradford county, Feb. 17, 1828, and was the fourth son of John and Sally Horton Morrow of that place. His early life was spent at home, where in alternate labors of the farm, the studies of the school-room, and teachings of the home circle, were laid the foundations of a good physical development, firm intellectual culture, and high moral character, which have distinguished him through life.

At the age of eighteen, at Franklin Academy, in Susquehanna county, he began the preparatory course of study, and in September, 1848, entered the freshman class of Hamilton College, and graduated with honor in 1852. In 1879 this institution conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. Previous to entering the academy, and while pursuing his studies, he was engaged in teaching for several terms. In educational matters he has always taken a deep interest, and upon the organization of Bradford County Teachers' Association, he was elected its first Secretary. His wise

counsel and valuable suggestions have been sought and appreciated by the teachers of the county ; and his addresses upon educational topics have ever been full of good advice, love and sympathy for the teacher as well as impressing him with dignity, importance and value of his work.

Possessing a strong analytical mind, argumentative, and practical in the ordinary affairs of life, he turned naturally to the law as his chosen profession, and immediately after his graduation came to Towanda, and entered the office of Judge Mercur, as a student-at-law. In September, 1853, he was admitted to the bar, having studied law extra during his senior year under Dr. Dwight. Entering upon his profession, he found at the bar such men as Elwell, Adams, Mercur, and others, who then were eminent in their profession, and doing the principal part of the legal business of the county. To make for himself a place and obtain business against such competitors required no little ability, energy and perseverance. He made haste slowly, but made it a rule to do well whatever he had to do ; and, with an unyielding integrity of purpose, he attracted attention and won the confidence of the public ; so that in 1856 he was elected District Attorney. In 1862 he became a law partner of Judge Wilmot, who then was United States Senator, and remained with him until he was appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Claims at Washington. He was subsequently associated with Henry Peet, Esq., until March, 1865, and then with Judge Mercur until March, 1870. At this latter date, he received the appointment of Additional Law Judge of the 13th Judicial District, composed of the counties of Bradford and Susquehanna, of which the Hon. F. B. Streeter was President Judge. In the fall of 1870 he was elected Additional Law Judge for the term of ten years. Under the new Constitution Bradford and Susquehanna counties were each made a separate Judicial District, and Judge Streeter having assigned himself to the latter in 1874, Judge Morrow was commissioned President Judge of the Bradford District, for the remainder of his term. Having proven a

wise, painstaking and honorable officer, in 1880 he was re-nominated by the Republicans of the county and endorsed by the Democrats, receiving almost an unanimous election. Ever since he went upon the bench he has been a hard worker, painstaking and diligent. Conscientious and upright in the discharge of his duties, just and correct in his decisions, he has won the respect and confidence of all. His official position involves great labor and responsibility. The business of the courts has been greatly increased, and occupies all his time. Large interests are involved, and, to say nothing of the physical efforts required, there is a constant anxiety and strain of the mental faculties. Yet he is courteous, patient, and willing to hear all that may be said by way of argument or persuasion, but at the same time is firm and independent, and seems to have but one object in view, viz : that the right may prevail. He has a well-balanced, discriminating mind, and an abiding love of justice. His sentences are always pronounced with words that are touching and full of good advice, revealing his true kindness of heart and noble manhood.

Politically Judge Morrow was originally an active member of the Democratic party until 1854, when the Kansas and Nebraska question led him to cast his lot with the opposition, and became a warm advocate of the principles of the Republican party. He has stood unswervingly by the principles of the party which he helped to organize in 1855, and since his elevation to the bench has worked for its welfare as far as consistent with his judicial position.

Judge Morrow is a ready supporter of both church and school interests, as well as every enterprise looking to the advancement of literature and the preservation of good society. In his religious belief, he is in hearty accord with the Presbyterian Church, without narrowness or bigotry toward those who may differ from him. Free from ostentation, he is genial and a warm and true friend.

In June, 1857, he married Miss Harriet King Pitcher, of Warren, Bradford county, and to them three children have

been born: *Henrietta*, a graduate of the Female College of Elmira, now the wife of Judge James T. Hale, of Duluth, Minn.; *John P.*, graduate of Hamilton College—class of '84—law student with Peck & Overton; *Charles S.*, clerk in Grain Exchange, Duluth, Minn.

Mrs. Morrow is a woman of rare intellectual and social culture, to whose kindly sympathies and encouragement her husband attributes much of his success in life, and whose genial influence makes home attractive for him, his children and friends. As a Christian woman, she is active in all the benevolent enterprises of the church and the Sabbath School.

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#### JAMES MACFARLANE\*

Was born at Gettysburg, Pa., Sept. 2d, 1819, and he was connected with many of the most influential families of the Cumberland valley. Of robust Scotch-Irish stock, he had the body as well as mind to accomplish high things, and both were taxed by constant, concentrated effort. Even on the street he was busy, and was often noticed stopping to jot down some memorandum, while in his office he was an indefatigable worker. He graduated in 1837 from the Pennsylvania college at Gettysburg, and the same year came to Towanda as a civil engineer on the North Branch Canal, remaining here, in Wyoming county, and along the line of the canal, for several years.

From here he went to Carlisle, where he read law with Judge Graham, and was admitted to the bar in 1845. After admission he went to New Bloomfield, Perry county, where he remained in practice for about eight years, serving three years as District Attorney. It was during his residence there that he married Miss Mary Overton, daughter of the late Edward Overton, Sr., who survives him. In 1851 he returned to Towanda to practice law, and in 1852 he was elected District Attorney of this county. He continued to practice until 1857, when he was made General Superin-

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\* From *Reporter-Journal*, Oct. 15, 1885..

tendent of the Barclay Coal Company, a position he held until 1865, when the Towanda Coal Company was organized. When that corporation passed into the control of the Erie Railroad he became the General Sales Agent of the Associated Blossburg Coal Company, his office being at Rochester, Syracuse and Elmira. In 1880 he organized the Long Valley Coal Company, and developed its mines. A few months ago he was selected Arbitrator by the Bituminous Coal Combination, a position for which his legal training, comprehensive knowledge of coal matters, and excellent judgment joined to a positive mind, admirably fitted him. This position he filled to the satisfaction of all concerned until the combination was broken by the action of the parties to it, when Mr. Macfarlane returned from Buffalo to his pleasant Towanda home. Among the positions of trust filled by him was that of Commissioner of the Second Geological Survey, to which he was appointed by Gov. Hartranft, and which he held at his death.

As an author he had won deserved fame. The "Coal Fields of America," his most noted work, has had a large sale in this country and Europe, and is regarded by scientists everywhere, as the standard work on the subject. He was authority on questions of coal deposits, and his services were in frequent demand by coal operators. He was the author also of "Geologists' Traveling Hand-book," containing an "American Geological Railway Guide." This book he had been several years engaged in revising and enlarging, and on the morning of his death proof was received from the publishers. He contributed several of the geological articles in the American Encyclopedia, wrote an article on the Bituminous Coal Fields of Pennsylvania for Gray's Atlas, and was a frequent contributor to *Science*, a well-known scientific periodical. He was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and was justly eminent for his scientific acquirements. In 1872 the Pennsylvania College conferred on him the title of Doctor of Philosophy. But his readings and studies were not confined to

scientific subjects alone. He had a wide knowledge of those matters which are a part of a liberal education, and was a thoroughly cultured gentleman. To the *Evangelical Review* he contributed an article on "The Lost Books of the Old Testament," and another on "Conversion of Children," showing his research in biblical matters and his interest in the practical problems of Christianity.

Of his Christian life his pastor says: "Early in life he became a professed child of God, and for many years served as an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Towanda. His christian life was always sincere, honorable, pure and open. Intelligent in the doctrines of his church, devoted to her interests and work, he never failed to stand in his place and accept the burdens of his profession and office. His sympathy could always be relied on for every effort to advance the cause of religion. He lived in the faith of Jesus Christ, and he died in that faith. His death was a translation, an easy going home."

His life, although crowded with work as very few are, was not given wholly to study and research. The demands of family and friends were paramount, and work was never so pressing that he could not put it aside to devote himself to them. In the social circle he was a leading spirit. His gentle manners, his ready wit and kindly humor, joined to a mind stored with riches gathered from every department of literature, made him the prince of entertainers, and the best of companions.

In projects tending to the material improvement of our town he was foremost. It was his far-sighted sagacity that planned, and his indomitable will that helped to completion the railroad that tapped the hidden wealth of Barclay Mountain. He it was who has done so much since to develop the coal industry at other points in that region. The cause of education, religion, every deserving charity, found in him a liberal patron—a ready and efficient helper. His hand was in every good work. Very often it was unseen and unknown, but it was not the less helpful. The latest act of his life was an act of charity.



Beginning at the foot of the ladder, he came, when young, to Towanda not endowed with the capital of wealth, but with the capital of brain, with honest intention, a quick eye for business, a ready hand for his work, and unswerving and unchangeable integrity. These were the qualities which he wrought into his accomplishments. He dies, not yet full of years, but leaving behind more material monuments of his industry than many great rulers; and more than all else, an example for the young men of this county which will not soon be lost. He has left us a sign by which men may conquer and deserve to conquer in the battle of life and win a victory not for themselves alone, but for their kind.

“ His life was gentle; and the elements  
So mixed in him, that Nature might stand up  
And say to all the world, ‘ This was a man.’ ”

Mr. Macfarlane's death occurred at his home in Towanda, Oct. 11, 1885. A widow, three sons and three daughters are left to mourn his loss. The eldest son, *Edward O.*, is a resident of Towanda, and Superintendent of the Long Valley Coal Mines; *Graham* is engaged in the coal business in Virginia; *James R.*, an attorney-at-law, Pittsburgh, Pa.; of the daughters *Ellen* is the wife of Wm. Little, of Towanda; *Mary* the wife of E. J. Angle; *Eugenia* a student at Vassar College.

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#### MAHLON C. MERCUR

Was born in Towanda, Feb. 6, 1816. His education was in part acquired at private schools, the Towanda Academy, but principally from his father who was a gentleman of rare literary attainments. In early childhood he was very feeble but by careful diet and proper out-door exercise, by the time he was fourteen years of age he had built up an iron constitution, with which he is still blessed.

When but a mere lad he evinced a strong inclination for business. At twelve his father gave him a tract of land which he soon after sold for \$2,000. Such ability had he

for business, that when he was sixteen, he took his place with the men in the buying and shipment of lumber and looking after its sale. At nineteen he purchased a heavy stock of goods, continuing the mercantile trade for several years in conjunction with an extensive lumbering business.

In 1836 a considerable interest was taken in relation to the opening of new streets in the borough of Towanda, and Mr. Mercur, then only twenty, and Wm. Elwell were thought best fitted for this important undertaking, and were selected Street Commissioners, being by virtue of their office, *ex-officio* overseers of the poor. They were wise servants, ever guardful of the interests of the borough, and were the first to make marked public improvements. They levied the first poor tax of the borough of Towanda. In 1838 Mr. Mercur was elected Councilman, an office which he held for several years, and it being the only office he would accept, till 1877, when he was appointed Deputy Collector of U. S. Revenues, a capacity in which he served for seven years. Having made a contract to furnish the entire hewed and sawed lumber required for the building of the bridges of the Cattawissa railroad, the greater portion of the spring and summer of 1836 was absorbed in making deliveries.

At the end of about four years he quitted the mercantile business, then in company with J. C. Adams engaged in the buying and selling of real estate. In 1844 he purchased the interest of his brother, James, in the firm of H. S. & J. W. Mercur, still continuing in the real estate business, erecting mills, improving farms, and putting up buildings upon them. His business grew rapidly and in 1852 he sold his interest in his store to his brother and gave his whole attention to outside matters.

He erected the first planing mill in this vicinity, and by the employment of a large number of laborers and the erection of numerous buildings in Towanda and the surrounding townships, he did not a little in promoting the business prosperity of the county.

The great fire of March, 1847, having destroyed the Court House and the greater portion of the business part of Towanda, Mr. Mercur believing that the future business security of the town required a better class of buildings than heretofore had, erected a permanent three-story brick block on the southeast corner of Main and Pine streets, now occupied by Stevens & Long, and others. At that time this was the best business block in the county and largely influenced the quality of blocks thereafter erected in the town.

After the North Branch Canal had been sold by the State to an inactive company, Mr. Mercur was induced in connection with some of his personal friends to buy a majority of the canal stock. Immediately after the purchase it was arranged that he be Secretary, General Superintendent, and general agent of the company, with full power to make any business arrangements necessary to encourage transportation on the canal, and to settle and adjust all damage claims against the company. Damage to the amount of \$500,000 was claimed by those injured by the canal, but through Mr. Mercur's fairness and business sagacity he secured a settlement with nearly all the claimants at a cost in the aggregate of \$40,000. All along the line farmers were hostile to the canal, but within a year after Mr. Mercur's management there was not a farmer, through whose land it passed from Wilkes-Barre to the State Line, but what considered it a public benefit. Finding the business of the canal too small to pay expenses he made arrangements with the Wyoming, West Branch, Pennsylvania, Union, Schuylkill and Tide Water Canals, giving the North Branch Company authority to ship lumber and all kinds of farm produce from the North Branch Canal over the several lines to market, at such rates of toll as in his judgment the shippers could afford to pay, giving through coupon clearances from the point of shipment to destination. This greatly benefitted farmers and lumbermen, but the amount shipped was still insufficient to make the canal a paying enterprise. Mr. Mercur now de-

terminated that a coal tonnage should be carried over the canal, and the point was gained through his persistency and shrewdness. A combination was formed in the shipment of coal with the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad ; also the Williamsport & Elmira Railroad, which proved profitable to the three shipping companies, remaining unbroken for several years, and being a great advantage to the consumers. In order to carry out the agreement made with the railroad companies Mr. Mercur was required to take the trade allotted to the North Branch Canal himself, and supply the division north of Wilkes-Barre with boats. This was a herculean undertaking and a great risk to run, yet Mr. Mercur was not daunted, and by working night and day and watching his business closely made a fortune in what others of more capital did not dare venture.

The canal now being in a good condition, accommodating the local trade, Mr. Mercur felt that a railroad up the Susquehanna valley would be a great convenience to the people, which ought in his mind to be built by the canal interests. Accordingly, he went to Harrisburg and drew up a bill to enable the company "to change their name, style and title from the North Branch Canal Company to the Pennsylvania and New York Canal and Railroad Company, with authority to construct and operate a single or double track railroad upon, along or near the tow-path or berme bank of the canal, from the county of Luzerne to the New York State line in the county of Bradford—the railroad company being compelled to keep open the canal and subject to all the obligations and liabilities of every kind of the North Branch Canal Co." The foregoing bill was drawn up by Mr. Mercur without consultation with any one. Seeing the leading members of both branches of the Legislature, by his influence with them certain rules were suspended, the bill introduced in the forenoon, and before eight o'clock in the evening passed through both Houses and was signed by the Governor. This was the most rapid legislation of which we have any record. Mr. Mercur thought he

had now accomplished a two-fold measure—the construction of a railroad and the perpetuity of the canal, thus securing in the best possible way the business interests of the county. However, it must be remembered that subsequently the railroad company took advantage of the measure, slipped a bill through the Legislature, which virtually abandoned the canal.

For some years Mr. Mercur, in company with J. Langdon and A. Tompkins, carried on a very heavy coal trade between the Pittston and Kingston mines and Baltimore, having 1200 cars alone marked in his name. When he sold his stock in the canal company he also sold his coal mines, boats, El-nira and Chicago real estate and coal business, and thereafter devoted his time and money to the completion of the Sullivan & Erie Railroad and improvements in and about Towanda. Some years before this time, Mr. Mercur was induced by some personal friends in Philadelphia to join them in obtaining a charter and building a street railway over Fourth and Eighth streets in that city. Through his energy and sagacity a charter was obtained, and the roads completed and put in running order in a short time. For several years he remained a heavy stockholder and director in the company.

During the Rebellion his business interests would not permit his entering the service, but he most generously aided the county with his means. At a low rate of interest he loaned the county the money necessary to pay her volunteers, and to whomsoever asked his aid in procuring volunteers in the formation of companies. Indeed, any one in the service who needed money for the support of his family always obtained aid from Mr. Mercur, who would never accept repayment from the widow, should her husband lose his life while in his country's service. When the draft was made, although by age exempted, he sent a representative to the army and kept one there till the close of the war.

After the war Mr. Mercur, in company with Col. Welles, purchased some three or four thousand acres of coal land in

Sullivan county, and in company with Geo. D. Jackson and M. Meylert, organized a coal and railroad company, putting in five thousand acres of coal land for capital stock, M. C. Mercur being president of the company. An unfortunate contract was made for the building of the road, which was finally thrown back upon the hands of the company, who were compelled to finish it themselves. All the moneys were advanced by Mr. Mercur or borrowed on his endorsement. Finally, some Boston parties acquired an interest in the stock and induced Mr. Mercur to largely endorse the company's paper. Circumstances afterwards proved that their scheme was to injure his credit, break down the company and buy in the stock for a trifle. His unfortunate confidence in the Boston men cost him property to the amount of \$1,050,000. However, this enormous loss did not discourage him, and he is still fighting actively the battle of life. "Mercur's Block" which will long remain as a proof of his enterprise, was erected by him, almost the entire material in it having been manufactured on and from his possessions.

Mr. Mercur has always taken an active part in politics, ever working zealously for his friends and the welfare of his party. His purse has always been open to aid in the campaigns of his party, no man in the county having contributed more liberally than he. Originally he was a Whig and remained with that organization till he became one of the charter members of the Republican party. At the age of twenty he was made chairman of the Whig county convention, and in 1844 was a delegate from this Congressional district to the National Convention which nominated Henry Clay for the Presidency. He was a warm friend and supporter of Thos. M. T. McKennan (father of the "Tariff of '42") for the Vice-Presidency, and exercised a great influence for him in the South and South-west. Unfortunately, the Whig party did not accept Mr. McKennan but nominated F. T. Frelinghuysen, the result being the defeat of the ticket. For many years Mr. Mercur has frequently been a delegate at the county and State conventions, and always had a great influence.

He has been (and still is) a man of wonderful activity, excellent judgment, rare comprehension and concentration of mind in business matters, venturesome and full of pluck. He is gifted with genuine sociability, always having been a gentleman to lord and peasant alike. His great pride has been in the upbuilding of his native town, in which his time and means have never been spared. He is a model of unselfish nature, ever aiding the deserving.

Though Mr. Mercur has been a man of extensive and active business, he found time by the midnight lamp to acquire a general and literary knowledge.

For many years he has been a regular communicant of the Episcopal Church and a liberal supporter of it. Upon the organization of the church at Towanda; in 1833, he was one of its first vestrymen and wardens.

In 1839 he was united in marriage with Miss Helen, daughter of Col. Joseph Kingsbury, who bore them a son, *Mahlon M.*, who served in the army with Banks, and died in Texas after the war. Mrs. Mercur died in 1841, Mr. Mercur again marrying in 1853 Miss Annie H. Jewett. The children by his second wife are—*Helen*, who married Rev. Geo. H. Rosenmuller, rector of the Episcopal church at Niagara Falls, N. Y.; *Lillie*; *William H.*, physician and surgeon at Pittsburgh, Pa.; *Hiram T.*, in the cotton business in the South; *Elise*; *Robert J.*

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#### COL. ELHANAN SMITH,

Son of Elhanan W. and Mary Eldridge Smith, was born in Susquehanna county, Pa. His father was a native of New London, Conn., where he resided until reaching man's estate, when he married and moved with his young wife to the new county of Susquehanna. After some years here he moved into Wyoming county and finally to Towanda in 1840, where he died in 1884, aged 82 years. Elhanan was educated at the Mannington Boarding School, Susquehanna county, Pa., and the Montrose and Cortland Academies. In

1839 he came to Towanda and entered upon the study of the law with David Wilmot, and at the same time edited the *Bradford Argus* in which he owned a one-third interest. He completed his studies with Edward Overton and J. C. Adams and was admitted to practice in the courts of the county in 1843. Subsequently he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the State and the courts of the counties of Lycoming, Wyoming, Susquehanna, Tioga, Sullivan and Lackawanna.

Mr. Smith has been interested in a number of important cases and has especially distinguished himself as a criminal lawyer. He has been the defendant's attorney in thirteen cases of murder in the first degree, and did not lose one of them. As to his ability in this direction we quote from the compliments of another: "Mr. Smith is a gentleman of fine presence and easy address. He is above the average size, somewhat portly and stands straight as an arrow. He has a large, well-formed head; around the lower part of the head his hair is white and thin, while the top of the head is quite bald, giving him a venerable appearance. His face is exceedingly pleasing to look at and very impressive; the organ of language is largely developed; there is a merry twinkle in his eye indicating a hive of humor and a readiness to take a hand in when occasion offers. His voice is musical, and as he rises to speak produces at once a favorable impression. He is deliberate in his utterance and at times rises to eloquence almost entrancing. He is graceful and easy of gesture and during his arguments attracts universal attention." The Colonel has a considerable reputation as an orator and is noted for his lengthy and spicy addresses. He is a hard worker for his clients, and is blessed with a wonderful degree of mental and physical vigor, everything considered. For several years he was associated with Geo. D. Montanye as a partner at law, and latterly with E. L. Hillis. Three years since he opened a law office at Scranton, spending a part of his time there and the balance at Towanda.



Politically the Colonel was originally a "Whig and acted with that party as long as it lasted," then with the Republican party till 1872, when he was an earnest supporter of Horace Greely. Since that time he has been rather retired, generally voting with the Democratic party. It will not be amiss to state that the Colonel's name has been sent to the President for the nomination to a judgeship in one of the territorial districts. The esteem in which he is held and his fitness for the place, is shown in the hearty indorsement which he has received from the bar and press, irrespective of party, in the Northern Tier.

Having been appointed Colonel of Militia by Gov. Porter, he gets the appellation by which he is well known. For genuine sociability and love of story, Col. Smith stands conspicuously in the foreground

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#### COL. ALLEN MCKEAN

Was born in Burlington, Bradford county, June 28, 1808, and was the eldest son of Robert McKean and Martha Wilson. His grandfather, James McKean, was one of the original pioneers into Burlington in 1791. His maternal grandfather, Noah Wilson, was also a pioneer into the county. He came in from Vermont and settled at Alba in 1803.

James McKean was a native of Scotland, moved to the north of Ireland, thence emigrated to America in about 1760 with his brothers and settled in the State of Maryland, whence after some years they removed to Pennsylvania, on the Juniata.

When the subject of this notice was about 17 years of age his father died, which devolved upon him the chief care and responsibility in assisting his widowed mother in providing for the family.

Endowed by nature with a large heart, a noble, generous, sacrificing disposition he learned to care more for the wants of those dependent upon him than for himself.

In early life, without advantages, with very limited oppor-

tunities, he, by toil and study, obtained a good common school education, and for several years was a successful teacher.

From his early manhood to old age he was called by his fellow citizens to fill offices of trust and responsibility. When only a young man he filled the office of Justice of the Peace with acceptability for fourteen years with that calm, dignified manner which characterized his whole life.

Under the old military *regime* of this Commonwealth he filled the several places of Lieutenant, Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel with honor. He took an active part in politics, and in 1835 was elected County Auditor on the Independent Democratic ticket, and served his term. His views naturally being with the Whigs, he finally went over to that party when it was in a hopeless minority, and because of his popularity was many times a candidate on their ticket. Though the Democrats were greatly in the majority, several times he came very close to an election.

In 1848, owing in part to Democratic disaffection and in part to his personal strength, he was elected Prothonotary, which office he held for twelve years. In 1851, and in 1854, he was elected against an adverse party majority of some hundreds. Upon the organization of the Republican party he became a member of it, and was re-elected in 1857 upon its ticket. In 1860 he was again the candidate for nomination and was "beaten by E. O. Goodrich in the sharpest political contest within the Republican party in the county." In 1862 he was a candidate for Representative on the ticket of the People's party and was defeated by less than a hundred votes. In the following year he was made the candidate for Sheriff by the same party, but was defeated by J. Monroe Smith, the Republican nominee. His defeats were not, however, due to lack of personal popularity, but to the fact that his party was in the minority. One of the men who fought him politically says: "There was a time when his popularity gave him a hold on the people politically fully equally to that of Wilmot's."

He served as a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington, D. C., and was paymaster in the army with the rank of Major a part of the time during the war of the Rebellion, and was Assessor of Towanda borough several years. "As a public officer he was deservedly popular. He was competent, intelligent, kind and obliging—always forgetting self to please or assist a friend, and he was a friend to evcrybody. He really seemed delighted to assist the most helpless and friendless. His kind words and gentle manner would re-assure a child. As Prothonotary, his manly form, dignified bearing, pleasing address and accommodating disposition made him at once a universal favorite with all classes and with all parties.

His counsel and substantial aid were always freely given to the poor and needy without fee or hope of recompense. The ignorant and simple looked to him as an oracle. The poor blessed him. In real benevolence, kindness of heart, self-sacrificing devotion to his friends, integrity, consistency, sincerity and truth, he was peerless.

In his country's struggle with the rebellion, when Pennsylvania was invaded by the rebels, he offered his scrvices and was accepted by the government to defend the State. He had a Captain's commission in that company, and while in that service contracted a disease which caused his death.

As a citizen, a soldier, a patriot and a scholar he stands deservedly pre-eminent. He had the will and courage and fortitude of a warrior, while he was kind, forgiving and affectionate to a fault. A stranger to duplicity or deccit, no word ever passed his lips intended to injure any human being. He loved the right, and was ready to embrace and defend it at any personal cost. He was truly the noblest work of God—an honest man."

In 1832 Mr. McKean was united in marriage with Miss. Elizabeth A. Merry, of Troy, who with a son, Leroy, and daughter, Eliza, survives him.

Upon his election to the office of Prothonotary in 1848 he removed with his family to Towanda, where he continued

to reside till the time of his demise, April 6, 1886. In conclusion we quote from his biographer, and life-long friend, John A. Codding: "A good man has gone. Full of years, honored, loved and mourned by all, he passed away."

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#### WILLIAM T. DAVIES

Was born in Glamorganshire, Wales, Dec. 20, 1831. In 1833 his father, David Davies, emigrated to America and settled in the township of Warren, where William spent his boyhood days. He was educated in the public schools and at the Owego Academy from which institution he was a graduate. In 1856 he came to Towanda to take charge of the public schools, and served as principal for four years. In 1859 he began reading law with William Elwell, and completed his studies with Judge Wilmot and his brother-in-law, G. H. Watkins. He was admitted to practice in the courts of the county in September, 1861. Upon the formation of the 141st P. V., in 1862, he was elected Captain of Company B, and remained with his company till May, 1863, when he was compelled to yield his place on account of a continued sickness, which nearly cost him his life, and returned to his home to build up a shattered constitution. In 1864 he was elected District Attorney of the county and served for a term of three years. He has been successively associated in the practice of his profession with Ulysses Mercur, Henry Peet, W. H. Carnochan and finally with L. M. Hall. Mr. Davies has always ranked well at the bar, and being of a kind, sympathetic nature, has ever been strong before juries. In 1876 he was the Republican candidate for Senator in the 23rd Senatorial District, composed of the counties of Bradford and Wyoming, and elected. He proved an able and valuable servant to his constituency and was re-nominated and elected in 1880. During the eight years he was in the Senate he served on the General Judiciary Committee, and was its Chairman the last three years of his incumbency. He was also Chairman of Committee on Appropriations

and served on various other minor committees. Senator Davies occupied a conspicuous place in the body in which he served and his views were always valued. In politics, as well, his opinions were consulted by the party leaders, his sound judgment gaining for him no little prominence in the politics of the State. In 1882 he was the Republican candidate for Lieutenant-Governor with Gen. Beaver, and was defeated owing to the movement of the Independent Republicans. He is again a candidate for the nomination to the same place on the Republican ticket this year, and his chances of success are almost beyond a doubt.

Senator Davies is not an orator, but enjoys the reputation of being a shrewd, level-headed gentleman of excellent common sense both in his profession and other business relations.

In 1861 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary, daughter of Wm. Watkins, Esq., which union has been blessed by two daughters and three sons.

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#### DEACON JAMES ELLIOTT

Was of Irish-Holland descent on his paternal side, and was born in Livingston's Manor, Columbia Co., N. Y., Oct. 10, 1788. His father, William Elliott, was a soldier of the Revolution, and moved to Wysox, Bradford Co., Pa., with his family in 1803. Here James grew to manhood, ever after remaining in the county, with the exception of a short time when he was a resident of Parrington, N. Y. His home was generally in or not far from Towanda, where he died Dec. 17, 1883. At about the age of twenty-one years he met with a change of heart in a Presbyterian meeting over which Rev. M. M. York presided, but being of a Baptist mind could not be persuaded to unite with any other body of Christian people. He was baptized about 1812 by Elder Hartwell, of Connecticut, in Wysox Creek at Myersburg, and ever after lived a consistent Christian life. Oct 31, 1846, he was elected a Deacon in the Baptist church of Towanda,

and held that office till the time of his death. Mr. Elliott was a strong advocate of temperance and a pronounced enemy of the use of tobacco. To a great extent did he claim that his well-preserved physique and clear mind were due to the fact that he was a total abstainer. Indeed, his physical vigor was remarkable, he being able to walk several miles after he was four score and ten. Up to the time of his demise his mind showed no signs of senility. This venerable father was a gentleman of high standing, and a large concourse of citizens testified to their esteem by being at his funeral. His remains were deposited in the Pond Hill cemetery, beside those of his beloved wife who had preceded him to the grave some years before.

Mr. Elliott never had any children born unto him, though a number have been reared under his care and gone out from his home to homes of their own.

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#### MILLER FOX

Was born in Towanda township, March 20, 1805. He was clerk to the County Commissioners from 1830 to 1835, when he resigned to become engineer of the Corning and Blossburg Railroad. While here he personally introduced the burning of coal in locomotives on the New York Central Railroad, Long Island Sound and Lake Ontario boats, they having only burned wood before this. From that he went to the Northern Railroad of New Hampshire, and as chief engineer, he surveyed, located and constructed the Pasumpic River Railroad. Having finished this work he returned to Towanda, where he built his well-known and attractive residence. He was made the engineer of the Towanda Bridge Company, and was president of it for several years. Mr. Fox was considerably of a *litterateur*, and in early life had stored his mind with useful knowledge. His interests became enlisted in the Susquehanna Collegiate Institute at its inception, and for several years, until his death, he was President of the Board of Trustees.

As a man Miller Fox was true, honest and honorable as a friend and neighbor, kind, courteous and genial; as a Christian, humble, trustful, consistent and intelligent. He was for years a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was always prominent and influential in its counsels and affairs. Mr. Fox married Miss Margaret Garret Evans, of Cooper Plains, N. Y. John E., an only child, occupies the homestead.

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GORDON F. MASON

Was born in Monroe, Bradford county, Jan. 19, 1810, and was the eldest son of Eliphalet and Roxy Fowler Mason. For several years he was largely interested in the sale of real estate in the counties of Bradford, Lycoming and Luzerne; and was several years a Deputy State surveyor for Bradford county. In 1846 he was elected to the office of State Senator, on the Democratic ticket and served one term. Becoming interested in the banking business he removed to Towanda with his family in the Autumn of 1852, where he continued to reside until the time of his death, Oct. 26, 1882. He in company with C. L. Ward and James P. Bull at one time were interested in the Barclay lands and opened the first mine there, transporting such coal as they did in wagons. Upon locating in Towanda Mr. Mason identified himself with the various projects tending to enhance the material prosperity of the town.

He was really the founder of the First National Bank of Towanda and the originator of the move resulting in the formation of the Towanda Iron Manufacturing Company, and was one of its directors and first President.

During the war he was one of the most urgent in calling men to their duty in the preservation of the Constitution and Union. In the various meetings called to discuss matters of "the war" he was ever present and one of the most conspicuous members. Two sons were among the first to offer their services to the Union in the hour of her peril and did faithful and gallant duty.

After the failure of the Towanda Iron Manufacturing Company Mr. Mason, with the pluck that was characteristic of him, at the age of sixty-five, completed Blackstone, with which he had previously become familiar, and was admitted to the practice of the law in the courts of the county in 1875. Mr. Mason took an active hand in political matters, and was a Democrat up to the time of the move resulting in the formation of the Republican party, with which he was identified till the close of his life. He was familiarly known as "Col. Mason" from the fact of his having been Colonel of the State Militia.

He was united in marriage with Miss Mary A., daughter of Ebenezer Mason, of Monroe, unto whom have been born—*Julius*, who was educated in the military schools of Kentucky, assisted in the formation of the 5th Pennsylvania Reserves, being immediately transferred to a Lieutenancy in Company K, 5th U. S. Cavalry and afterwards as an aid to Gen. Grant. After the war he remained in the U. S. Army, was Major of the 3rd U. S. Cavalry and brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. He died at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, Dec. 1882; *Addison* was a Lieutenant of Company F, 5th Reserves, and served on Gen. Meade's staff. He is now residing at Pittston and is engaged in the coal business; *Maria*, widow of G. H. Watkins, late Lieutenant-Colonel of the 141st P. V., resides at Towanda; *Almira* (deceased) married Chas. Welles of Ulster; *Irene* is the wife of Daniel Searles of Montrose, Pa.; *Edward* is a clerk with Powell & Co., Towanda, Pa.

Mrs. Mason survives her husband and is an excellent Christian lady, enjoying the esteem of all who know her.

#### WILLIAM C. BOGART, ESQ.,

Was born in New York city in 1812. He is of Holland descent, his ancestors being among the early families of the Empire city. In 1828, through the inducements of his uncle, Enos Tompkins, he came to Rome, Bradford county,



to assist in his business there. He was finally taken into co-partnership with Enos Tompkins & Co., and for a few years traveled in the West making sales. In 1839 he came to Towanda and still continued with his uncle until he went out of business. Upon the election of Dr. Weston as Sheriff, Mr. Bogart was made his deputy and served with efficiency during the three years. For several years he had charge of the Towanda bridge, until 1853, when he was elected a Justice of the Peace and held the same office continuously for twenty-five years. He was for many years Secretary of the Bradford County Agricultural Society, and also served the people faithfully and with intelligence in many other capacities. As a magistrate Mr. Bogart was efficient, accommodating, and one of the ablest the town ever had. For many years he took a conspicuous part in the doings of the town, and was one of the first and most active firemen. He was ever ready to further the interests of the town, and for many years was chorister of the Presbyterian church. Mr. Bogart has now retired from active business.

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CHARLES M. MANVILLE,

Son of Adrian and Almira Woodruff Manville, was born in the township of Wysox. His parents were natives of Connecticut, and among the pioneers of Orwell, thence coming to Wysox at an early day. Mrs. Manville was a sister of Mrs. Dr. Barstow. Their father, Capt. Samuel Woodruff, a Revolutionary soldier, came in from the East and lived with Mrs. Barstow, where he died and is buried at Wysox. Mr. Manville, after having lived in Wysox for a few years, moved to Nichols, N. Y., where he remained for a short time, then went to Western Virginia and spent the balance of his life. Charles remained with his father in his hotel until a young man, getting such education as he could by the aid of his mother, and through his own diligence. In about 1830 he came to North Towanda and worked for his brother at the

Pail Factory, afterwards buying his interest. Since leaving this institution he has been interested in business of various kinds, generally farming. He has been a resident of Towanda borough for thirty-four years, and during that time, he says, "there has not been a day that he was not able to go down street to attend to his business." In his younger days Mr. Manville prepared for the legal profession, and had nearly completed his studies when he was drawn into business. This and a vast amount of general knowledge he gained by burning the midnight oil. During the Rebellion he was Provost Marshal, which gave him the title of Captain, by which he is familiarly addressed.

The Captain has taken a considerable interest in politics, and in the campaigns has frequently been one of the "stump speakers." He is a man of remarkable physique and is still in control of unimpaired intellectual faculties.

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#### WILLIAM CHAMBERLIN,

The oldest merchant that has been continuously in business under the same name at Towanda, was born in Berkshire county, Mass., June 6, 1819. At the age of thirteen he went to Geneseo, Livingston county, N. Y., and for some time worked at cabinet making. In 1834 he came to Towanda, and with the exception of about a year and a half at Troy and Elmira has since resided in the town. Having learned the jeweler's trade in 1840 he began business under the name of W. A. Chamberlin, which he has continued up to the present time. In his business relations he has been careful, methodical, straight forward and honorable; the result being the accumulation of a handsome property.

Mr. Chamberlin is a highly respected citizen, and is a ready supporter of any scheme intended to add to the material prosperity of the town. He is a brother of the late Alvah E. Chamberlin, who was for several years postmaster at Towanda, and one of her brightest and most popular young men.

## JOHN CARTER

Was born in slavery in Virginia, and "kept in bondage until he was old enough to do a man's work," when he and several others were sold to a Georgian. As they were being transported in chains to their new master, at a blacksmith shop on their way one of the party found a "spike-gimlet," which he secreted, and when the proper time came, broke their fetters and ran to make their escape. We only know the fate of Mr. Carter. He returned to his home, saw his mother for the last time, then started for Canada, keeping in the woods and mountains, and for a whole week having no other food than the buds of the trees. Arriving at Milton, Northumberland Co., Pa., he accidentally found some friends who informed him that he had relatives in the place, who induced him to remain in the neighborhood. Finally, after a year and a half he and others whose freedom had not been bought, were betrayed by one of their own color. They again fled, and barely escaped into New Jersey without being taken. Becoming the servant of a tourist who took a great liking to him, through his aid he learned the barber's art, and was soon enabled to run a shop of his own. After having resided in Philadelphia, Jersey Shore, and Williamsport, he came from the last named place to Towanda in 1837, it having been recommended as a desirable place for his business, from the fact of the building of the canal. Here he has ever since resided, and for many years worked at his trade. Mr. Carter, while uneducated, is a gentleman of good judgment, honorable, and much respected by his townsmen.

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## THE BAR.

The history of the Bar of Bradford County is necessarily closely connected with the affairs of the county seat, the scene of all important forensic measures. The Courts, which organized in 1813 under the commission issued to John Banister Gibson as President Judge, have held "perpetual suc-

cession" within what is now the Borough limits, and the practicing attorneys have there resorted for the active labors of professional duty. Some whose names appear upon the appended list of those admitted to practice were for many years residents of Towanda; some, in recognition of the high character of distinguished counsellors, resided in Towanda for the purpose of obtaining a legal education, and after their probation, have carried their talents to other fields of labor;—and others again have been enrolled as members of the bar only to facilitate their business which was chiefly in other counties.

Taking in consideration the differences which three-fourths of a century must produce, even in the stability of the law, the records of the first courts of the county have a most familiar appearance to the lawyers of to-day. Much of this is undoubtedly due to the carefulness of early procedure, and in the present case, to the painstaking and conscientious labors of the late Chas. F. Welles, Sen., himself admitted at the earliest date, who was the first keeper and custodian of the records and evidences of process.

The first decade of the county's legal history witnessed the admission of twenty-one members to the bar, whose practice was before Judges Gibson, Burnside and Herrick, the last named being one of the first admitted here. The next period—to 1833—saw nineteen names added to the list. From 1833 to 1843, thirty-four regular admissions were noted,—among the last of that period being the present distinguished Chief Justice of this State. The next ten years saw an increase of fifty-two,—among the number in the last year being President Judge Morrow. Twenty-five more were sworn before the close of 1863,—forty sworn in the period closing with 1873, and forty-nine to the close of 1885. Of these, about one-third in number have been from time to time closely connected with Towanda by residence as well as business, and they are elsewhere noticed in connection with general or family history.

Among those who came to the Bar prior to 1860 but few

survive, and of these, eight have been exalted by their ability and the voice of their countrymen to judicial positions in this and other Commonwealths. Their ability, knowledge and integrity are justly held in highest respect.

It is impossible within present limits to record much that might be interesting in the personnel, characteristics, and legal experience of the generation whose labors moulded the first existence of this Bar. It may be said of all that they labored to preserve the landmarks of the science whose application they were sworn justly to administer,—to avoid dangerous and untimely innovations, and to present private lives framed in accordance with the principles they taught. In expertness of doctrine and carefulness of practice they built a reputation which their successors will strive to maintain.

Taking the Bar altogether in its relations to Towanda, its existence has been marked by the assistance given by the profession to the best interests of the town,—by a desire to harmonize and build up, to cultivate and to promote, and if the general career of its members has been in accord with the duties of private citizenship, its contribution to general history has been important. Not only have its members risen to judicial rank but public councils have felt their influence. Wilmot, Mercur and Overton have participated in national legislation,—Sanderson, Rockwell and Davies have sat in our State Senate,—Kinney, Bullock, Barstow, Elwell, Webb, Hillis, Madill, Shaw and others, in the House of Representatives,—while in still another sphere, that of scientific usefulness, the attainments of James Macfarlane, whose noble life but lately ended, commanded widespread attention. The loyalty of many whose names are elsewhere written, was evinced in the late war, and their courage and devotion, even to death itself, will not be forgotten.

The comparatively recent decease of Warner H. Carnochan, justifies an allusion to him. In adopting Towanda as his home, he brought a vigorous mind, a skilfulness in his profession and brilliant prospects, which were too soon overshadowed by his untimely death.

Appended is a list of Attorneys entered of record in Bradford county since 1813:

NAME.	ADMITTED.	NAME.	ADMITTED.
Adams, J. C. . . . .	1824	Carmalt, Jas. E. . . . .	1877
Ames, Herbert S. . . . .	1870	Codding, James H. . . . .	1879
Angle, E. J. . . . .	1877	Codding, John W. . . . .	1879
Baldwin, Ethan. . . . .	1813	Cronin, John . . . . .	1885
Bullock, Darius . . . . .	1813	Cameron, David . . . . .	1885
Barton, D. F. . . . .	1823	Cleveland, E. J. . . . .	1880
Baird, E. W. . . . .	1830	Dennison, — . . . . .	1815
Burnside, James . . . . .	1832	Dimmock, D. Jr., . . . . .	1835
Barstow, Julius R. . . . .	1839	DeWolf, Lyman E. . . . .	1837
Baird, H. C. . . . .	1842	Dana, Edmund L. . . . .	1844
Booth, Henry . . . . .	1844	Dewitt, W. R. . . . .	1848
Barker, Geo. R. . . . .	1849	Deitrick, A. J. . . . .	1851
Brisbane, John . . . . .	1852	Davies, W. T. . . . .	1860
Ballard, O. P. Jr. . . . .	1868	Durand, S. H. . . . .	1860
Barker, Sperry . . . . .	1868	Dewitt, Jacob . . . . .	1863
Burrows, T. E. . . . .	1870	Dewitt, D. C. . . . .	1871
Bentley, Benj. S. . . . .	1875	Davies, Rees . . . . .	1872
Buck, Sam. W. . . . .	1879	Doane, S. O. . . . .	1872
Buffington, Edward D. . . . .	1880	DeAngeles, P. C. J. . . . .	1872
Bullock, Chas. E. . . . .	1884	Drake, Frank F. . . . .	1874
Catlin, Charles . . . . .	1813	Dunham, E. M. . . . .	1875
Case, Benj. T. . . . .	1817	Davies, John E. . . . .	1882
Collins, O . . . . .	1818	Disbrow, Theo. C. . . . .	1881
Cash, David . . . . .	1819	Evans, John . . . . .	1813
Cook, J. A. . . . .	1843	Elwell, Wm. . . . .	1832
Case, N. P. . . . .	1848	Emery, Jacob . . . . .	1835
Chamberlin, A. . . . .	1848	Elwell, Edward . . . . .	1840
Case, Milton H. . . . .	1853	Elsbree, Nathan C. . . . .	1849
Carnochan, Warner H. . . . .	1861	Evans, Isaac N. . . . .	1853
Coburn, F. G. . . . .	1861	Elliott, Edward T. . . . .	1861
Califf, Jno. N. . . . .	1864	Espy, John . . . . .	1867
Canfield, Jno. E. . . . .	1845	Elsbree, L. . . . .	1875
Camp, B. O. . . . .	1871	Espy, B. M. . . . .	1876
Chilson, W. E. . . . .	1877	Elliott, M. F. . . . .	1881

NAME.	ADMITTED.	NAME.	ADMITTED.
Frazer, Philip . . .	1837	Ingalls, Roswell C. . .	1839
Frisbie, Mason Z . .	1851	Ingham, Thos. J. . . .	1860
Frazer, Franklin . .	1866	Johns, Hiram C. . . .	1870
Foyle, William . . .	1870	Jones, Lynds F. . . .	1873
Fassett, D. D. . . .	1870	Johnson, F. G. . . .	1883
Fanning, Adelbert C.	1874	Johnson, H. F. . . .	1882
Gray, Hiram . . . .	1828	Kinney, Simon . . . .	1813
Grow, Galusha A. . .	1847	Knox, John C. . . . .	1841
Greeno, C. C. . . . .	1850	Kelley, H. C. . . . .	1842
Grim, A. Logan . . .	1863	Kinney, O. H. P. . . .	1844
Goodrich, St. John .	1841	Kellum, Charles . . .	1845
Guernsey, Jno. W. . .	1841	Kinney, Miles . . . .	1853
Gridley, E. C. . . .	1871	Kidder, Luther . . . .	1853
Goff, E. F. . . . .	1876	Keeler, Henry . . . .	1862
Gillette, W. LaMonte	1881	Kingsbury, John H. .	1869
Herrick, Edward . . .	1813	Kirkuff, J. B. . . . .	1870
Hale, James T. . . .	1832	Kirkendall, S. E. . . .	1873
Hulett, Mason . . . .	1832	Kinney, O. D. . . . .	1876
Heaton, J. H. . . . .	1840	Kirby, S. S. . . . .	1883
Holliday, James . . .	1841	Keeney, J. P. . . . .	1879
Hazard, E. W. . . . .	1841	Kimberly, Geo. W. . .	1880
Hakes, Lyman . . . .	1843	Lewis, E. . . . .	1828
Hale Judson . . . . .	1844	Little, Robert . . . .	1842
Hale, James E. . . .	1846	Lyman, A. Chauncey	1855
Hurlburt, Edwin . . .	1847	Lewis, E. D. . . . .	1870
Herrick, Edward, Jr .	1866	Little, E. H. . . . .	1872
Harris, Jos. R. . . . .	1870	Little, Stanley W. . .	1873
Hillis, E. L. . . . .	1875	Little, William . . . .	1875
Hall, L. M. . . . .	1877	Lamb, Chas. E. . . . .	1872
Head, Arthur . . . .	1877	Lilley, Mial E. . . .	1880
Hall, Charles M. . . .	1877	Lewis, Geo. W. . . . .	1876
Hale, Benj. F. . . . .	1881	Lamberson, W. A. . .	
Hale, Jas. T. . . . .	1879	Lewis, G. Mortimer . .	1876
Huston, Chas. T. . . .	1879	Lloyd, Clinton . . . .	1877
Horton, John C. . . .	1880	Mallory, Garrick . . .	1813
Ingham, A. . . . .	1826	McClure, Robert . . .	1813

NAME.	ADMITTED.	NAME.	ADMITTED.
Miner, Josiah K. . . .	1816	Nichols, F. M. . . .	1873
Maynard, John W. . .	1833	Noble, Orrin T. . . .	1874
Maxwell, Volney M. .	1833	Overton, Edward . . .	1816
Mercur, Ulysses . . .	1843	Overton, D'Alanson .	1853
Mitchell, David . . .	1843	Overton, Edward, Jr .	1858
Myer, Hiram W. . . .	1845	Patton, William . . .	1818
Marvin, E. C. . . . .	1846	Payne, H. . . . .	1830
Metcalf Henry . . . .	1851	Pettibone, Harvey . .	1832
Mills, M. E. . . . .	1851	Pierce, Stephen. . . .	1832
Madill, H. J. . . . .	1851	Purple, Norman H. . .	1833
McCay, Jas. E. . . . .	1870	Patrick, H. W. . . . .	1838
McAlpin, Harvey . . .	1853	Patrick, G. G. . . . .	1841
Morrow, Paul D. . . .	1853	Pierce, L. H. . . . .	1842
McKean, H. B. . . . .	1855	Pierce, James E. . . .	1844
Montanye, Geo. DeLa	1857	Platt, Orville H. . . .	1850
Mercur, Charles . . .	1861	Patrick, Edward L. . .	1860
Mix, John W. . . . .	1864	Peck, Benjamin M. . .	1860
Morrison, S. G. . . .	1871	Peet, Henry . . . . .	1863
Maynard, H. F. . . .	1872	Peck, William A. . . .	1864
McPherson, Isaiah . .	1872	Palmer, King W. . . .	1879
Mitchell, S. N. . . . .	1872	Payne, S. R. . . . .	1864
Mercur, Rodney A. . .	1875	Patrick, F. G. . . . .	1868
Maxwell, William. . .	1875	Picketts, A. . . . .	1874
Mason, Gordon F. . .	1875	Porter, Frank S. . . .	1876
Myer, Thos. E. . . . .	1877	Peck, W. H. . . . .	1847
McCollum, A. H. . . .	1877	Parsons, Eli B. . . . .	1849
McCollom, J. T. . . .	1882	Phinney, J. F. . . . .	1882
Morgan, Adelbert . .	1878	Piolett, Victor E., Jr.,	1882
Mercur, James W. . .	1879	Richards, J. T. . . . .	1840
Morgan, Albert . . . .	1878	Reeve, J. B. . . . .	1851
Myer, Thos. E. . . . .	1877	Ross, Franklin C. . . .	1859
Mills, Edward, Jr . . .	1878	Rockwell, Delos . . .	1862
Marsh, H. F. . . . .	1882	Ryan, Thomas . . . . .	1861
Morrow, John P. . . .	1886	Redfield, A. A. . . . .	1877
McGovern, Wm . . . .	1882	Rockwell, H. H. . . .	1878
Noble, Silas . . . . .	1835	Scott, David . . . . .	1813



NAME.	ADMITTED.	NAME.	ADMITTED.
Stewart, A. C. . . . .	1813	Tozer, Ralph . . . . .	1853
Strong, S. G. . . . .	1818	Thompson, R. J. . . . .	1871
Sturdevant, E. W. . . . .	1829	Thompson, W. H. . . . .	1869
Sample, Hamilton . . . . .	1837	Talbot, D. Smith . . . . .	1872
Sanderson, George . . . . .	1840	Tozer, J. S. . . . .	1872
Scott, Wilson . . . . .	1841	Thompson, Eugene A. . . . .	1880
Smith, Elhanan . . . . .	1842	Thompson, Edward A. . . . .	1880
Saxton, Frederick . . . . .	1843	Welles, C. F. . . . .	1813
Smith, Francis . . . . .	1844	Williston, Henry . . . . .	1818
Sherwood, Julius . . . . .	1844	Watkins, Wm . . . . .	1828
Smead, Thomas . . . . .	1844	Wilmot, David . . . . .	1829
Scott, Wm. G. . . . .	1845	Woodward, G. W. . . . .	1834
Stevens, N. Miller . . . . .	1849	Ward, Christopher L. . . . .	1837
Siebensch, James J. . . . .	1857	Williston, L. P. . . . .	1837
Shaw, J. H. . . . .	1869	Wilcox, Huchins T. . . . .	1840
Stone, Judson W. . . . .	1871	Wattles, Morris S. . . . .	1844
Streeter, Henry . . . . .	1872	Wilcox, — . . . . .	1844
Smith, D. W. . . . .	1872	Wells, Thos . . . . .	1844
Shoemaker, J. Ferris. . . . .	1873	Wilson, F. S. . . . .	1846
Sherwood, Edmond . . . . .	1879	Wells, Geo. O. . . . .	1847
Sittser, John A. . . . .	1874	Webb, Henry G. . . . .	1849
Sanderson, Jno. F. . . . .	1874	Watkins, Guy H. . . . .	1853
Sickler, Harvey . . . . .	1875	Willard, W. W. . . . .	1858
Smith, C. . . . .	1875	Williams, H. N. . . . .	1859
Stroud, Geo. D. . . . .	1876	Willard, Chas. F. . . . .	1859
Sechrist, W. C. . . . .	1880	Wood, James . . . . .	1860
Scouten, John G. . . . .	1879	Watkins, W. H. . . . .	1868
Stephens, O. D. . . . .	1872	Wilt, J. Andrew . . . . .	1875
Thomas, Hiram . . . . .	1833	Williams, John G. . . . .	1882
Todd, Thomas . . . . .	1850	Walker, Edward . . . . .	1882
Tyler, Hugh . . . . .	1847	Watkins, G. M. . . . .	1886
Treusdell, L. M. . . . .	1851	Webb, James H. . . . .	1885
Tutton, Geo. S. . . . .	1852	Young, Wm. J. . . . .	1877

## BRADFORD COUNTY CIVIL LIST.

*United States Senators.*

Samuel McKean . . . . .	1835-39
David Wilmot . . . . .	1861-63

*Members of Congress.*

Samuel McKean . . . . .	1822-24
John Laporte . . . . .	1834-36
David Wilmot . . . . .	1844-50
Henry W. Tracy . . . . .	1862-64
Ulysses Mercur . . . . .	1864-71
Joseph Powell . . . . .	1874-76
Edward Overton . . . . .	1876-80

*Judge of the United States Court of Claims.*

David Wilmot . . . . .	1863-68
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*Consul to Santa Cruz, West Indies.*

Edward H. Perkins . . . . .	1862 —
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*Deputy Collector of Port of Philadelphia.*

Henry W. Tracy . . . . .	1866-68
Joseph Powell . . . . .	1885 (Incumbent)

*Surveyor of Port of Philadelphia.*

E. Reed Myer . . . . .	1861-67
E. O'Meara Goodrich . . . . .	1869-81

*Deputy Surveyor of Port of Philadelphia.*

Hiram P. Goodrich . . . . .	1869-81
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*Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

Samuel McKean . . . . .	1829-32
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*Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth.*

Elisha S. Goodrich . . . . .	1852-55
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*Surveyor General.*

John Laporte . . . . .	1845-51
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*Justice of Supreme Court.*

Ulysses Mercur, 1872—became Chief Justice, Jan., 1883.

*State Superintendent of Common Schools.*

Charles R. Coburn . . . . . 1863-66

*State Senators.*

Henry Welles, 1815-18. District—Lycoming, Clinton, Centre, McKean, Bradford and Tioga.

Samuel McKean, 1829-30 (resigned to become Secretary of Commonwealth)—Bradford, Susquehanna and Tioga.

Reuben Wilbur, 1830-37—Bradford, Susquehanna and Tioga.

Elihu Case, 1837-40—Susquehanna and Bradford.

Gordon F. Mason, 1846-49—Bradford and Tioga.

George Sanderson, 1850-53—Susquehanna, Bradford, Wyoming.

E. Reed Myer, 1856-59—Susquehanna, Bradford and Wyoming.

George Landon, 1859-62 and 1865-68—Susquehanna, Bradford and Wyoming.

Delos Rockwell, 1874-76—Susquehanna, Bradford and Wyoming.

William T. Davies, 1876-84—Bradford and Wyoming.

J. K. Newell, 1884 (incumbent)—Bradford and Wyoming.

*Members of the House of Representatives.*

From 1774 to 1782, inclusive, Bradford county formed part of Westmoreland, State of Connecticut, and sent members to the semi-annual sessions of the Legislature at Hartford, as follows:

September, 1774, Christopher Avery; October, 1781, Obadiah Gore, Capt. John Franklin; May, 1782, Obadiah Gore; October, 1782, Obadiah Gore.

*District—Lycoming, Bradford, Tioga and Potter Counties.*—1813-14, Henry Welles.

*District—Bradford and Tioga Counties.*—1815-19, Samuel McKean; 1820-22, Simon Kinney.

*District—Bradford County (one member).*—1822-23, Wm.

Myer; 1823-26, Lemuel Streeter; 1826-28, Constant Mathewson; 1828-29, John Laporte.

*District—Bradford and Tioga (two members).*—1829-32, \*John Laporte; 1832-33, Ellis Lewis; 1833-35, Lockwood Smith; 1835-36, Darius Bullock, Isaac Myer.

*District—Bradford (one member).*—1836-37, Isaac Cooley; 1837-38, George Kinney; 1838-40, David F. Barstow; 1840-41, Stephen Pierce; 1841-43, William Elwell.

*District—Bradford (two members).*—1843-45, John Elliott, Irad Wilson; 1845-46, John L. Webb, Victor E. Piollet; 1846-47; V. E. Piollet, Francis Smith; 1847-48, Francis Smith, Arunah Wattles; 1848-49, Arunah Wattles, Charles Stockwell; 1849-50, Joseph C. Powell, Charles Stockwell; 1850-52, Addison McKean, Henry Gibbs; 1852-54, Wm. E. Barton, John Passmore; 1854-56, Bartholomew Laporte, Judson Holcomb; 1856-58, C. F. Nichols, J. B. G. Babcock; 1858-60, O. H. P. Kinney, Thomas Smead; 1860-62, Henry W. Tracy, C. T. Bliss; 1862-63, Dummer Lilley, B. Laporte; 1863-64, D. Lilley, Jos. H. Marsh; 1864-65, Jos. H. Marsh, Lorenzo Grennell; 1865-66, G. W. Kinney, L. Grennell; 1866-67, Jas. H. Webb, G. W. Kinney; 1867-70, Jas. H. Webb, John F. Chamberlain; 1870-71, † Jas. H. Webb, P. H. Buck; 1871-72, P. H. Buck, B. S. Dartt; 1872-73, B. S. Dartt, E. Reed Myer; 1873-74, E. Reed Myer, Jas. H. Webb.

*District—Bradford (three members).*—1874-76, Geo. Moscrip, Elijah G. Tracy, Uriah Terry; 1876-78, E. Reed Myer, James Foster, John F. Gillett; 1878-80, S. D. Harkness, H. J. Madill, Asa Nichols; 1880-82, J. H. Marsh, E. L. Hillis, L. D. Taylor; 1882-84, E. J. Ayers, Benj. B. Mitchell, J. P. Coburn; 1884-86, J. H. Shaw, H. Howell, S. D. Sterigere.

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\*Speaker, 1832.

† Speaker, 1871.

‡ Speaker, 1877.

*Delegates to Constitutional Convention.*

1837—Almon H. Read, Senatorial (Bradford, Susquehanna). Nathaniel Clapp, Representative (Bradford).

1873—George F. Horton, Jos. G. Patton.

*President Judges.*

John B. Gibson . . . . . 1812 to Sept., 1816  
 Thomas Burnside . . . . . 1817  
 Edward Herrick . . . . . Sept. 1818 to Sept. 1839  
 John N. Conyngham . . . . . 1839 to 1849  
 Horace Williston . . . . . 1849 to 1851  
 David Wilmot . . . . . 1851 to 1861  
 Ulysses Mercur . . . . . 1861 to 1865  
 Ferris B. Streeter . . . . . 1865 to 1874  
 Paul D. Morrow . . . . . 1874 (incumbent).

*Additional Law Judge.*

Paul D. Morrow . . . . . 1870 to 1874

*Associate Judges.*

Geo. Scott . . . . . Oct., 1812, to May, 1818  
 John McKean . . . . . Oct., 1812, to May, 1837  
 Jonathan Stevens . . . . . May, 1818, to 1840-41  
 John Laporte . . . . . 1839 to 1845  
 Abraham Goodwin . . . . . 1841 to 1844  
 David M. Bull . . . . . 1845  
 Harry Morgan . . . . . 1846 to 1851  
 Reuben Wilber . . . . . 1846 to 1851  
 Myron Ballard . . . . . elected 1851  
 Harry Ackley . . . . . " 1851  
 Aaron Chubbuck . . . . . " 1856  
 John F. Long . . . . . " 1856  
 John Passmore . . . . . " 1858  
 V. M. Long . . . . . " 1861  
 L. P. Stalford . . . . . " 1863  
 J. Wilson Vandyke . . . . . " 1866  
 Zebulon Frisbie . . . . . " 1868  
 Stephen D. Harkness . . . . . " 1871  
 Chauncey S. Russell . . . . . 1873 to 1875

*Sheriffs.\**

Abner C. Rockwell . . . . .	appointed Dec. 9, 1812
John Spalding, 2d . . . . .	" Dec. 9, 1815
Lemuel Streeter . . . . .	" Dec. 14, 1818
Joseph C. Powell . . . . .	" Oct. 30, 1821
Reuben Wilber . . . . .	" Oct. 28, 1824
Benjamin McKean . . . . .	" Nov. 27, 1827
Lockwood Smith, Jr . . . . .	" Dec., 1830
John L. Webb . . . . .	" Dec., 1833
Guy Tozer . . . . .	" Nov., 1836
Ira H. Stephens . . . . .	elected Oct., 1839
John N. Weston . . . . .	" Oct., 1842
John F. Means . . . . .	" Oct., 1845
William S. Dobbins . . . . .	" Oct., 1848
Chester Thomas . . . . .	" Oct., 1851
John A. Coddington . . . . .	" Oct., 1854
Thomas M. Woodruff . . . . .	" Oct., 1857
A. Hanson Spalding . . . . .	" Oct., 1860
J. Monroe Smith . . . . .	" Oct., 1863
William Griffis . . . . .	" Oct., 1866
J. Perry VanFleet . . . . .	" Oct., 1869
J. Monroe Smith . . . . .	" Oct., 1872
Andrew J. Layton . . . . .	" Nov., 1875
Peter J. Dean . . . . .	" Nov., 1878
William T. Horton . . . . .	" Nov., 1881
Dallas J. Sweet . . . . .	" Nov., 1884

*Prothonotary, Clerk of Oyer and Terminer and Quarter Sessions.*

Charles F. Welles . . . . .	1812 to 1818
George Scott . . . . .	1818 to 1830
Darius Bullock . . . . .	1830 to 1831
Alpheus Ingham . . . . .	1831
James P. Bull . . . . .	May 1831 to 1836
Samuel Strait . . . . .	1836

\* The two candidates having the highest number of votes were returned to the Governor, of whom he appointed one to be Sheriff. The same rule held in regard to Coroner.

Joseph C. Powell . . . . .	Oct. 1836 to 1839
David Cash, elected . . . . .	1839
Aaron Chubbuck, " . . . . .	1842
Addison McKean, " . . . . .	1845
Allen McKean, " . . . . .	1848-51-54-57
E.O'Meara Goodrich, " . . . . .	1860-63
Wm. A. Thomas, " . . . . .	1866-69
Benjamin M. Peck, " . . . . .	1872-75
Geo. W. Blackman, " . . . . .	1878-81
Wm. J. Young, " . . . . .	(incumbent) 1884

*Register of Wills, Recorder of Deeds, and Clerk of Orphans' Court.*

Charles F. Welles, appointed . . . . .	1812-1818
Geo. Scott, Clerk Orphans' Court . . . . .	1818 to 1830
Eliphalet Mason, Register and Recorder . . . . .	1818 to 1820
Charles Whithead, Register and Recorder . . . . .	1820 to 1824
Alpheus Ingham, Register and Recorder, and Clerk . . . . .	1824 to 1831
Elisha S. Goodrich . . . . .	1831 to 1836
George A. Mix . . . . .	1836 to 1838
Dummer Lilley . . . . .	1838 to 1839
Ephraim W. Baird . . . . .	elected 1839
Julius Russell . . . . .	" 1842
Lyman DeWolf . . . . .	" 1845
Horatio Black . . . . .	" 1848
H. Lawrence Scott . . . . .	" 1851
James H. Webb . . . . .	" 1854 and 1857
Nathan C. Elsbree . . . . .	" 1860 and 1863
Henry J. Madill . . . . .	" 1866
Chas. E. Gladding . . . . .	" 1869
Otis J. Chubbuck . . . . .	" 1872
Cephas E. Andrus . . . . .	" 1875
Addison C. Frisbie . . . . .	" 1878
James H. Webb . . . . .	" 1881
Adelbert D. Munn (incumbent) . . . . .	" 1884

*District Attorneys.*

Thomas Smead . . . . .	elected	Oct., 1850
James Macfarlane . . . . .	"	Oct., 1853
Paul D. Morrow . . . . .	"	Oct., 1856
Guy H. Watkins . . . . .	"	Oct., 1859
George D. Montanye . . . . .	"	Oct., 1862
Wm. T. Davies . . . . .	"	Oct., 1865
Warner H. Carnochan . . . . .	"	Oct., 1868
Joseph B. Reeve . . . . .	"	Oct., 1871
John N. Califf . . . . .	"	Oct., 1874
Isaiah McPherson . . . . .	"	Nov., 1877
Adelbert C. Fanning . . . . .	"	Nov., 1880
Eleazer J. Angle . . . . .	"	Nov., 1883

*County Treasurers.†*

Harry Spalding . . . . .	appointed	Jan., 1813-14
Wm. Means . . . . .	"	Jan., 1815
Simon Kinney . . . . .	"	Jan., 1816-17
Henry Mercur . . . . .	"	Jan., 1818-20
Gurdon Hewitt . . . . .	"	Jan., 1821-22
George Scott . . . . .	"	Jan., 1823
Andrew Irvine . . . . .	"	Jan., 1824-26
James P. Bull . . . . .	"	Jan., 1827-28
Alpheus Ingham . . . . .	"	Jan., 1829
Andrew Irvine . . . . .	"	Jan., 1830
William Russell . . . . .	"	Jan., 1831-32
Chauncey Frisbie . . . . .	"	Jan., 1833-34
David M. Bull . . . . .	"	Jan., 1835-37
John E. Hale . . . . .	"	Jan., 1838-40
Wm. B. Storm . . . . .	"	Jan., 1841
Charles Stockwell . . . . .	elected	Oct., 1841
Leonard Pierce . . . . .	"	Oct., 1843
Jacob Reel . . . . .	"	Oct., 1845
James M. Peck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1847
John Horton . . . . .	"	Oct., 1849
Benj. Wilcox . . . . .	"	Oct., 1851

† Appointments were made by the Commissioners.



Preceptor Forbes . . . . .	"	Oct., 1853
Ezra C. Kellogg . . . . .	"	Oct., 1855.
E. Percival Shaw . . . . .	"	Oct., 1857
Wm. Griffis . . . . .	"	Oct., 1859
Francis Watts . . . . .	"	Oct., 1861
Stephen D. Harkness . . . . .	"	Oct., 1863
J. Perry VanFleet . . . . .	"	Oct., 1865
Chas. A. Morey . . . . .	"	Oct., 1867
C. K. Ladd . . . . .	"	Oct., 1869
Wm. Bunyan . . . . .	"	Oct., 1871
Matthew Marshall . . . . .	"	Oct., 1873
James C. Robinson . . . . .	"	Nov., 1875
John H. Grant . . . . .	"	Nov., 1878
Eben Lilley . . . . .	"	Nov., 1881
J. Leman Elsbree (incumbent) . . . . .	"	Nov., 1884

*County Commissioners.*

Joseph Kinney . . . . .	elected	Oct., 1812
Justus Gaylord . . . . .	"	Oct., 1812
Wm. Myer . . . . .	"	Oct., 1812
Burr Ridgway . . . . .	"	Oct., 1813
Samuel McKean . . . . .	"	Oct., 1814
Salmon Bosworth . . . . .	"	Oct., 1815
Nathaniel Allen . . . . .	"	Oct., 1815
Eliphalet Mason . . . . .	"	Oct., 1816
Joseph C. Powell . . . . .	"	Oct., 1817
Bartholomew Laporte . . . . .	"	Oct., 1818
Wm. Myer . . . . .	"	Oct., 1819
Geo. Hyde . . . . .	"	Oct., 1820
Lemuel Streeter . . . . .	"	Oct., 1821
Darius Bullock . . . . .	"	Oct., 1822
John Taylor . . . . .	"	Oct., 1823
Theodore Leonard . . . . .	"	Oct., 1824
Gould Seymour . . . . .	"	Oct., 1825
Burton Strait . . . . .	"	Oct., 1826
Churchill Barnes . . . . .	"	Oct., 1827
Hezekiah Dunham . . . . .	"	Oct., 1828

Eliphalet Mason . . . . .	"	Oct., 1829
John L. Webb . . . . .	"	Oct., 1830
Isaac Cooley . . . . .	"	Oct., 1831
John Elliott . . . . .	"	Oct., 1832
Morris Spalding . . . . .	"	Oct., 1833
Elias Rockwell . . . . .	"	Oct., 1834
Harry Morgan . . . . .	"	Oct., 1835
E. S. Goodrich . . . . .	"	Oct., 1836
Daniel Parke . . . . .	"	Oct., 1837
Ira Stevens . . . . .	"	Oct., 1838
Myron Ballard . . . . .	"	Oct., 1839
Irad S. Wilson . . . . .	"	Oct., 1839
Benjamin Buffington . . . . .	"	Oct., 1840
Edson Aspenwall . . . . .	"	Oct., 1841
Daniel Brink . . . . .	"	Oct., 1842
Joseph Towner . . . . .	"	Oct., 1843
Luman Putnam . . . . .	"	Oct., 1844
Ashbel L. Cranmer . . . . .	"	Oct., 1845
John H. Black . . . . .	"	Oct., 1846
Hiram Spear . . . . .	"	Oct., 1847
Simeon Decker . . . . .	"	Oct., 1848
Aug. S. Smith . . . . .	"	Oct., 1849
Sturges Squires . . . . .	"	Oct., 1850
Daniel B. Cotton . . . . .	"	Oct., 1851
Isaac A. Park . . . . .	"	Oct., 1852
Stuart Smiley . . . . .	"	Oct., 1853
Geo. H. Bull . . . . .	"	Oct., 1854
Perley H. Buck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1855
Dummer Lilley . . . . .	"	Oct., 1856
Daniel Decker . . . . .	"	Oct., 1857
Perley H. Buck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1858
William A. Thomas . . . . .	"	Oct., 1859
Wm. H. Decker . . . . .	"	Oct., 1860
Isaac Lyon . . . . .	"	Oct., 1861
Josephus Campbell . . . . .	"	Oct., 1862
Wm. B. Dodge . . . . .	"	Oct., 1863
John Beardslee . . . . .	"	Oct., 1864

Sterne McKee . . . . .	"	Oct., 1865
Wm. B. Dodge . . . . .	"	Oct., 1866
John A. Moody . . . . .	"	Oct., 1867
Ezra Loomis . . . . .	"	Oct., 1868
John B. Hines . . . . .	"	Oct., 1869
E. C. Kellogg . . . . .	"	Oct., 1870
Morris Shepherd . . . . .	"	Oct., 1871
Benj. Kuykendall . . . . .	"	Oct., 1872
Abram Snell . . . . .	"	Oct., 1873
Morris Shepherd . . . . .	"	Oct., 1874
*M. J. Coolbaugh . . . . .	"	Nov., 1875
*Geo. W. Kilmer . . . . .	"	Nov., 1875
*John Baldwin . . . . .	"	Nov., 1875
James H. Hurst . . . . .	"	Nov., 1878
Daniel Bradford . . . . .	"	Nov., 1878
M. F. Ransom . . . . .	"	Nov., 1878
Daniel Bradford . . . . .	"	Nov., 1881
Myron Kingsley . . . . .	"	Nov., 1881
M. F. Ransom . . . . .	"	Nov., 1881
Milton O. Loomis . . . . .	"	Nov., 1884
Levi W. Towner . . . . .	"	Nov., 1884
Geo. H. Vandyke . . . . .	"	Nov., 1884

*County Auditors.*

Clement Paine, Moses Coolbaugh, Jonathan Stephens . . . . .	elected Oct., 1813
Eliphalet Mason, Wm. F. Dininger, Salmon Bosworth . . . . .	" Oct., 1814
Ethan Baldwin . . . . .	" Oct., 1815
Lemuel Streeter, Edward Herrick . . . . .	" Oct., 1816
Jonathan Stevens . . . . .	" Oct., 1817
Wm. Means, Geo. Hyde, B. J. Woodruff, Samuel Bartlett . . . . .	" Oct., 1818
Harry Morgan . . . . .	" Oct., 1819
J. M. Piollet . . . . .	" Oct., 1821
Nathaniel Clapp . . . . .	" Oct., 1822

\* Elected for three years, the term having been two years prior.

Burton Strait . . . . .	"	Oct., 1823
Charles Comstock . . . . .	"	Oct., 1824
Asa Pratt . . . . .	"	Oct., 1825
John Laporte . . . . .	"	Oct., 1826
Harry Morgan . . . . .	"	Oct., 1827
J. M. Piollet . . . . .	"	Oct., 1828
Isaac Cooley . . . . .	"	Oct., 1828
John E. Hale . . . . .	"	Oct., 1829
Myron Ballard . . . . .	"	Oct., 1830
Samuel Stevens . . . . .	"	Oct., 1831
Abraham Goodwin . . . . .	"	Oct., 1832
Alpheus Holcomb . . . . .	"	Oct., 1833
Aaron Chubbuck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1834
Allen McKean . . . . .	"	Oct., 1835
G. F. Horton . . . . .	"	Oct., 1836
Harry Ackley . . . . .	"	Oct., 1837
Luman Putnam . . . . .	"	Oct., 1838
James M. Edsall . . . . .	"	Oct., 1839
Arunah Wattles . . . . .	"	Oct., 1840
Chester Welles . . . . .	"	Oct., 1841
Horace Willey . . . . .	"	Oct., 1842
John Watkins . . . . .	"	Oct., 1843
J. M. Bishop . . . . .	"	Oct., 1844
Chas. Homet . . . . .	"	Oct., 1845
Lemuel S. Maynard . . . . .	"	Oct., 1846
Samuel W. Shepherd . . . . .	"	Oct., 1847
F. S. Whitman . . . . .	"	Oct., 1848
Wm. H. Peck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1849
Wm. Overton . . . . .	"	Oct., 1850
Edward C. Welles . . . . .	"	Oct., 1851
Wm. H. Peck . . . . .	"	Oct., 1852
C. F. Nichols . . . . .	"	Oct., 1853
Jonathan Buttles . . . . .	"	Oct., 1854
Christopher Child . . . . .	"	Oct., 1855
Francis Homet . . . . .	"	Oct., 1856
Lewis B. Pierce . . . . .	"	Oct., 1857
Robert Mason . . . . .	"	Oct., 1858

Jeremiah Travis, Jr . . . . .	"	Oct., 1859
E. Reuben DeLong . . . . .	"	Oct., 1860
Robert Mason . . . . .	"	Oct., 1861
Geo. R. Acroyd . . . . .	"	Oct., 1862
C. H. Corbin . . . . .	"	Oct., 1863
Robert Mason . . . . .	"	Oct., 1864
Geo. W. Elliott . . . . .	"	Oct., 1865
Isaac D. Soper . . . . .	"	Oct., 1866
O. D. Field . . . . .	"	Oct., 1867
Asa McKee, Jr . . . . .	"	Oct., 1868
Walter S. Bowman . . . . .	"	Oct., 1869
John S. Quick . . . . .	"	Oct., 1870
A. R. Brown . . . . .	"	Oct., 1871
Ira Crane . . . . .	"	Oct., 1872
E. Reuben DeLong . . . . .	"	Oct., 1873
Geo. W. Brink . . . . .	"	Oct., 1874
*Danvers Bourne, J. R. Brasted, Wm. L. Lantz . . . . .	"	Nov., 1875
Joseph H. Hurst, Ulysses M. Pratt, Chas. P. Welles . . . . .	"	Nov., 1878
Wm. W. Moody, Joseph T. Hested, Chas. P. Welles . . . . .	"	Nov., 1881
Clement F. Heverly, Earl V Nichols, Job Morley . . . . .	"	Nov., 1884

*Clerks of Commissioners.*

Joséph Kingsbury . . . . .	appointed	Jan., 1813-14
George Scott . . . . .	"	Jan., 1815-20
Burr Ridgway . . . . .	"	Jan., 1820
Edwin Benjamin . . . . .	"	Jan., 1821-22
Morris Spalding . . . . .	"	Jan., 1823-24
James P. Bull . . . . .	"	Jan., 1825-26
Warren Brown . . . . .	"	Jan., 1827-29
Miller Fox . . . . .	"	Jan., 1830-35
John E. Hale . . . . .	"	Jan., 1836-37
Charles Stockwell . . . . .	"	Jan., 1838-41

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\* Elected for three years, the term having previously been two years.

A. S. Chamberlain . . . . .	"	Jan., 1842-44
John M. Wattles . . . . .	"	Jan., 1845-47
C. S. Russell . . . . .	"	Jan., 1848-50
E. M. Farrar . . . . .	"	Jan., 1851-56
E. B. Coolbaugh . . . . .	"	Jan., 1857-62
G. E. Fox . . . . .	"	Jan., 1863
E. B. Coolbaugh . . . . .	"	Jan., 1864-75
Wm. Lewis . . . . .	"	Jan., 1876-82
Samuel W. Buck, (incumbent) .	"	Nov., 1882

*Jury Commissioners.*

Joseph Foulke, W. R. Storrs . . . .	elected	Oct., 1867
E. Reuben DeLong, S. W. Buck . . .	"	Oct., 1870
B. Frank Knapp, C. Edson Ferguson . .	"	Oct., 1873
Thomas A. Lee, Frank E. Jayne . . .	"	Nov., 1876
Volney M. Wilson, Thos. J. Smiley . .	"	Nov., 1879
Nelson Gilbert, J. Monroe Ayers . . .	"	Nov., 1882
Mahlon M. Hicks, John R. Fulford . .	"	Nov., 1885

*Coroners.*

John Horton . . . . .	appointed	1813
Reuben Wilber . . . . .	"	1815
John Minier . . . . .	"	1818
Chauncey Frisbie . . . . .	"	1820
John Fox . . . . .	"	1824
John L. Webb . . . . .	"	1827
John Vandyke . . . . .	"	1830
Edwin L. Paine . . . . .	"	1833
Aaron Knapp . . . . .	"	1836
Henry S. Salisbury . . . . .	elected	1839
Calvin Storm . . . . .	"	1842
John Hatch . . . . .	"	1845
Thomas J. Ingham . . . . .	"	1848
Geo. M. Black . . . . .	"	1851
W. W. Eastabrooks . . . . .	"	1854
Newell Leonard . . . . .	"	1857
Jeremiah Culp . . . . .	"	1860
Abram Snell, Jr . . . . .	"	1863

Joseph H. Hurst . . . . .	"	1866
John F. Dodge . . . . .	"	1869
J. Valentine Geiger . . . . .	"	1872
Daniel B. Walker . . . . .	"	1875-78-81
Clinton H. Scott . . . . .	"	1882
Volney Homet . . . . .	"	1884

*County Surveyors.*

†Jonathan Stevens appointed Deputy Surveyor	1812
Zephen Flower . . . . .	" " " 1821
Eliphalet Mason . . . . .	" " " 1824
Gordon F. Mason . . . . .	" " " 1830
†James M. Edsall . . . . .	" " " 1833
†Rowland Wilcox, . . . . .	" " " 1836
Edgar G. Nichols . . . . .	elected 1850
James A. Paine . . . . .	" 1853
Jos. E. Spalding . . . . .	" 1856
Josiah J. Newell . . . . .	" 1859-62-65
Oliver W. Stevens . . . . .	" 1868
Jos. E. Spalding . . . . .	" 1871
Geo. V. Myer . . . . .	" 1874
T. A. Seward . . . . .	" 1877-80
Oliver A. Gilbert . . . . .	" 1883

*County Superintendents.*

Emanuel Guyer . . . . .	elected 1854
Charles R. Coburn . . . . .	" 1857-60
Otis J. Chubbuck . . . . .	" 1863-66
Austin A. Keeney . . . . .	" 1869-72-75
J. Andrew Wilt . appointed to fill vacancy, Jan.,	1878
George W. Ryan (incumbent) . . . . .	elected 1878-81-84

BURGESSES OF TOWANDA.

Hiram Mix . . . . .	elected 1829
David F. Barstow . . . . .	" 1830
Samuel Huston . . . . .	" 1831
D. F. Barstow . . . . .	" 1832

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† Appointments made by the Surveyor-General of the State.

Burton Kingsbury . . . . .	"	1833
E. S. Goodrich . . . . .	"	1834
Simon Kinney . . . . .	"	1835
D. F. Barstow . . . . .	"	1836
Silas Noble . . . . .	"	1837
W. B. Storm . . . . .	"	1838-39-40
Samuel Huston . . . . .	"	1841
George A. Mix . . . . .	"	1842
Ira H. Stephens . . . . .	"	1843
E. D. Montanye . . . . .	"	1844
D. F. Barstow . . . . .	"	1845
Adonijah Moody . . . . .	"	1846
David M. Bull . . . . .	"	1847-48
Hiram Mix . . . . .	"	1849
William Elwell . . . . .	"	1850
Wm. A. Chamberlin . . . . .	"	1851
Wm. Elwell . . . . .	chosen by council	1852-53-54
N. N. Betts . . . . .	"	1855
U. Mercur . . . . .	"	1856-57-58
Wm. Elwell . . . . .	"	1859-60
C. L. Ward . . . . .	"	1861
B. F. Powell . . . . .	"	1862
James McCabe . . . . .	"	1863
C. S. Russell . . . . .	"	1864-65-66-67-68-69
Alex Diven . . . . .	"	1870
I. B. Humphrey . . . . .	"	1871
A. G. Mason . . . . .	"	1872
Jas. Bryant . . . . .	"	1873-74
Jas. McCabe . . . . .	"	1875
E. T. Fox . . . . .	"	1876
N. N. Betts . . . . .	"	1877-78
W. H. Dodge . . . . .	"	1879
W. H. Jones . . . . .	"	1880
W. G. Alger . . . . .	"	1881-82
John J. Spalding . . . . .	"	1883
F. J. Krom . . . . .	"	1884
C. B. Porter . . . . .	"	1885



Edward Frost . . . “ “ 1886

#### NEWSPAPERS.

The first effort to start a county paper was made by Wm. Brindle, of Williamsport, who circulated a subscription and turned his efforts over to Thomas Simpson, who, in 1813, published the *Bradford Gazette*, the first newspaper printed in the county—the office being located at “Meansville,” near the Episcopal church, opposite Jesse Woodruff’s tailor shop. He continued to publish the *Gazette* about one year, when he sold his interest in the paper to Burr Ridgway, who continued to print it for a little more than three years. During that time, and while the editor was on the days of appeals as County Commissioner, Octavius A. Holden, who had charge of the paper in his absence, issued six numbers of a paper styled “*The Times*,” the object of which was to advertise the unseated lands, a majority of the Commissioners being Federals and opposed to patronizing the *Gazette*, and took this opportunity and paid Holden to print the six numbers of the “*Times*” under the direction of Simon Kinney, County Treasurer, and issued the same as their dates matured. The scheme did not succeed, as the Treasurer did not think it prudent to sell upon such notice, and thus ended the “*Times*.”

#### *The Washingtonian,*

The first Federal paper in the county, was edited by Lewis C. Franks, who continued its publication for about one year, when it was turned over to Octavius A. Holden, who discontinued its publication after a short time. Its motto was —“ I claim as large a charter as the winds, to blow on whom I please.”

#### *The Bradford Gazette,*

Which was Democratic-Republican in politics, was purchased by Streeter & Benjamin in 1818 and its name changed to

*Bradford Settler,*

which in 1821 was purchased by George Scott, who remained the editor and publisher for two years, when he was succeeded by James P. Bull, who conducted the paper in the interest of a company representing the McKean interest in politics, being Democratic. In 1830 Mr. Bull sold the *Settler* to Hamlet A. Kerr, who edited it for a short time. In 1833 Dr. Hiram Rice succeeded to the office and material, and changed the name of the paper to the *Northern Banner*. He continued the publication of the paper for two years, its politics remaining unchanged, being ardently Jacksonian.

*The Towanda Republican*

Was published in 1826-27 by Warren Jenkins, as an opposition paper (National Republican) to the Jacksonian Democracy. In 1828-29 Burr Ridgway succeeded to it, and continued its publication for two or three years when it ceased to appear.

*The Northern Banner*

Was purchased by E. S. Goodrich in 1835 and continued for about two years, when it was sold to J. C. Cantine and others who combined it with the *Democrat* under the title of the *Banner and Democrat*.

*The Bradford Democrat*

Was established as the organ of the McKean wing (the *Banner* having ceased to support it) of the Democratic party in 1836-37. It was published by Cantine & Hogan for a time. Mr. Cantine was succeeded by H. A. Beebe, subsequently of the *Owego Gazette*, who continued its publication till 1841, when it was discontinued.

*The Bradford Argus,*

the oldest paper in the county, was originally founded as the *Anti-Masonic Democrat*, started at Troy in or about 1830, by O. P. Ballard. Dr. E. R. Utter bought the *Democrat* in 1832-33, removed it to Towanda and changed its name to

the *Bradford Argus* and its politics to that of the Whig party. Mr. Utter continued the *Argus* until 1834, when he associated George Wayne Kinney and Dummer Lilley, practical printers, in the publication of the paper, the firm being known as Utter, Kinney & Lilley. This arrangement was short lived, Mr. Utter regaining the sole control again. In 1836 he sold the concern to Dummer Lilley, who continued the paper until November, 1839, when he sold it to Col. Elhanan Smith, B. F. Powell and E. A. Parsons, who, under the name of Smith, Powell & Parsons, continued the publication till 1841, when Col. Smith, who had been the editor, sold his interest to Parsons & Powell, and Powell to Parsons in 1851, whereupon the latter became the sole proprietor of the paper. In November of the same year the establishment was burned to the ground, it being a total loss, but was re-established by Mr. Parsons in the short space of five weeks. Mr. Parsons continued to conduct the *Argus* in the interests of the Whig party till that organization went out of existence, then as a Republican paper till 1862, when it withdrew from the Republican cause and supported the "People's ticket." It became a Democratic organ in 1864 and was edited by Jacob DeWitt till 1866, when Mr. Parsons placed his son, E. Ashmun, in charge of the paper, who enlarged it, put in steam power and otherwise improved it. The junior Parsons is still the editor of the *Argus*.

*The Bradford Porter.*

The first number of this paper was issued in June, 1840, by Mr. E. S. Goodrich, in the interest of Gov. Porter, of Pennsylvania, and continued so to do for a time; but the Governor's policy becoming distasteful to the editor he added a prefix to the name in December, 1843, and christened it

*The Bradford Reporter,*

which remained unchanged till January, 1885. In 1841, the *Democrat* having been discontinued, the *Reporter* became the organ of the Democratic party in the county and so re-

maintained until the Free Soil controversy arose, when it espoused the cause of "Free Soil, Free Speech, and Free Men," and battled vigorously against the extension of the "peculiar institution," being a zealous supporter of David Wilmot and an efficient advocate of his measures to prevent the spread of slavery. In 1845 Mr. Goodrich retired from the paper, and for a short time E. O. & H. P. Goodrich conducted it; but in 1846 the former became the sole proprietor, and published the paper till 1863. He then surrendered it to S. W. Alvord for one year, and again assumed control and continued to edit and publish it until 1869, at which date Mr. Alvord again succeeded to its control and management and so continued until 1879, when he quit the paper. From 1879 to 1881 C. H. Allen was the local editor of the paper and Mr. Goodrich the editor and proprietor, only having before leased to Mr. Alvord. From 1881 to 1882 C. H. Allen was virtually editor of the paper, which was owned by the Goodrich estate till February, 1882, when it was sold to H. F. Marsh and J. E. Hitchcock, the former being the editor-in-chief. Marsh & Hitchcock continued the publication of the *Reporter* till 1885, when it was consolidated with the *Towanda Journal* under the name of *Reporter-Journal*, the first issue being dated Jan. 8th. The politics of the paper is Republican. The proprietors are—H. F. Marsh, J. E. Hitchcock, D. M. Turner, C. H. Turner. H. F. Marsh, editor; C. H. Turner, local editor.

Upon the formation of the Republican party the *Reporter* became its organ in the county, and has ever since been immutable in its politics.

#### *The Pennsylvania Backwoodsman*

was issued in 1845-46 as a literary periodical by Henry Booth and C. L. Ward.

#### *The North Branch Democrat*

was published a short time in 1850 as an anti-Wilmot organ, Wien Forney, of Philadelphia, being nominally the editor and publisher.

*The Bradford Times*

was established and supported by the Democratic State Central Committee, under the direction of C. L. Ward, J. F. Means and V. E. Piolet, and first issued in June, 1856, by D. McKinley Mason, who was the editor in charge. Mason remained in charge of the paper until after the close of the Buchanan campaign, when it was leased to John G. Fries, of Bloomsburg, Pa., who continued its publication till some time in 1857. In 1858 the material of the office was leased to Chase & Keeler, who founded

*The Bradford Herald,*

which was also devoted to the interests of the Democratic party. In 1859 O. D. Goodenough bought out Mr. Keeler and the paper was continued for about a year by Chase and Goodenough, who sold to Ferguson & Payne. The new proprietors published the paper till about the beginning of the year, when it went out of existence.

*The Daily Argus,*

the first daily newspaper published in Towanda, made its appearance in 1863 and was continued for two weeks. It was issued by E. A. Parsons in conjunction with the *Bradford Argus*.

*The Towanda Business Item*

was established in 1871, the first number being issued Aug. 5th, by O. D. Goodenough and E. J. Clauson, and was a live, spicy, independent local paper, though a small one. It was enlarged during the second year to a twenty-four column paper. Mr. Goodenough retired from the *Item*, Jan. 1, 1873, Mr. Clauson continuing its publication till the time of his death in Dec., 1874. The paper then went into the hands of Gen. H. J. Madill, of whom Judson Holcomb and T. A. Angus purchased the stock and material, and June 1, 1875, founded

*The Bradford Republican,*

merging the *Item* in the new publication, being Independ-

dent Republican in politics. With Mr. Holcomb editor-in-chief the *Republican* was continued by Holcomb & Angus till 1879, when C. L. Tracy purchased Mr. Angus's interest, the paper having since been published by Holcomb & Tracy. In 1882 C. H. Allen became associate editor with Mr. Holcomb, a place which he still fills.

*The Towanda Journal,*

was established by D. M. Turner, editor and proprietor, in May, 1873, the first number appearing on the 14th day of that month. In Jan. 1882, C. H. Turner purchased an interest in the paper and was its local editor thenceforward till its combination with the *Reporter*. The *Journal* was a wide-awake, newsy paper, independent in politics.

*The Towanda Daily Journal,*

was edited and published by D. M. and C. H. Turner from Oct. 1882 till Oct. 1883.

*The Towanda Gazette,*

was established as a Greenback organ in 1879 by S. C. Clizbe, who continued its publication for about one year. At the same time he issued the *Towanda Daily Gazette*.

*The Towanda Daily Review,*

was founded by Alvord & Son, and the first number of the paper issued Aug. 1, 1879, being Independent Republican in politics. S. W. Alvord was the editor. April 1, 1883, W. H. Webb bought an interest in the paper, and on the 10th of that month the *Daily Review* was enlarged from a four to five column folio, and

*The Towanda Weekly Review,*

an eight column folio, established. Nov. 8th, 1883, W. H. Webb became the sole proprietor and editor of both papers. In March, 1884 he enlarged the *Daily Review* to a six column folio; and in April following changed the *Weekly Review* to

*The Towanda Semi-Weekly Review,*

of the same size as the enlarged Daily. On the 9th of July,

1884, S. W. Alvord again became the editor of the paper, and shortly thereafter re-established the *Weekly Review* and in October ensmallled "the Daily" to a five-column folio, in which size it is still published.

January 1, 1885, O. D. Goodenough and E. R. Thompson leased both papers, changing the politics to conservative Democratic, with Mr. Goodenough editor. June 15, 1885, E. B. & F. C. McKee purchased the paper conditionally, and since Jan. 1, 1886, have been the owners and associated editors. The politics of the *Review* is independent.

*The True Greenbacker*

Was published by the Greenback County Committee in 1878-9, under the editorial management of Frank G. Johnson.

*The Missionary,*

a religious journal, was edited by Rev. G. J. Porter and published in 1878-9 in the interest of the Universalist church.

*The Knights of Honor Advocate*

Was founded in 1878 by J. R. Kittredge, and represented the interests of the society which its name suggests. In 1882 the paper was sold to a Boston party. In 1882 Mr. Kittredge also founded the

*Knights and Ladies of Honor Record,*

which was continued here till 1883, when the paper was removed to St. Louis, Mo., where it is still being published by Mrs. J. R. Kittredge.

*The Bradford County School Journal*

Was founded in October, 1879, through the efforts of the leading teachers of the county, was edited by them and devoted to educational interests. Its publication was discontinued after a year and a half.

*The Towanda Record,*

originally established as the *Dushore Record*, was issued by J. W. Gould in Nov., 1882, and continued as an Independent paper for about three months.

### *The Mercury*

was a small eight-page paper devoted to amateur journalism, and was published by Hiram T. Mercur, President of the National Amateur Press Association, from 1881 to 1885.

### BANKS.

*The Towanda Bank* (the first) was established in 1834-35. The first officers were: Thomas Elliott, President; Wm. B. Storm, Cashier; the active directors being Col. Joseph Kingsbury, Edward Overton, Col. Hiram Mix, H. S. Mercur, L. S. Ellsworth (Athens), Judge Harry Morgan (Wysox). The bank was opened in the basement of Thomas Elliott's dwelling house, which then stood where the *Argus* building now is. A more suitable building\* was afterwards erected on the opposite side of the street, where business was done until the failure of the bank. During the first years of the existence of the bank it did a good business, established credit, and at one time is said to have been able to command over \$700,000. In about 1837 Mr. Elliott resigned and Col. Joseph Kingsbury became President. After a number of changes the stock finally (about 1841) passed into dishonest hands, resulting in a failure in 1843. However, it is but just to state, that with the exception of one person, those participating in the advantages growing out of the failure were not residents of Towanda.

C. L. Ward, Esq., and Thomas Dyer were the last President and Cashier, the last office having previously been filled, for a short time, by a Mr. Vaningan.

In 1850, Hon. John Laporte, Col. G. F. Mason and B. S. Russell began a private banking business under the firm name of Laporte, Mason & Co. Mr. Russell sold out his interest about 1859, and the business was continued under the firm name of Laporte, Mason & Co. About the year 1860 Mr. Russell and J. K. Vallance began banking under the firm name of B. S. Russell & Co., and in 1863 in-

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\* This is the building now occupied by the Towanda Gas Company's new office.



creased their business by buying out Laporte & Mason. After Mr. Vallance's death the "company" was at different times H. S. Mercur; Ulysses Mercur; and M. C. Mercur, who in 1865 succeeded to the sole proprietorship of the business, which he continued till 1873, when meeting with a loss of \$1,050,000, closed his bank after his depositors had drawn out their moneys.

*The First National Bank of Towanda* was chartered, under the National Banking Law, July 19, 1863, and immediately commenced business with a capital of \$100,000, which in February, 1865, was increased to \$125,000. The original officers were—Gordon F. Mason, President; N. N. Betts, Cashier; directors, Joseph Powell, C. S. Russell, O. D. Bartlett, E. H. Smith, Geo. Stevens, E. W. Hale, M. E. Solomon and J. O. Frost. Jan. 13, 1865, Mr. Mason was succeeded by E. H. Smith as President, who in turn was followed by Joseph Powell, who assumed the duties of that office Jan. 13, 1870, having ever since been the executive officer. Mr. Betts, still acting in the capacity of Cashier, has filled his place with efficiency since the organization of the bank.

The new bank, erected in 1874, occupies the site of the old banking-house on Main street. The building was designed by J. E. Fleming, architect, and is elegantly and conveniently arranged. It is built of brick, 40x70 feet, two stories in height, and is provided with fire and burglar proof vaults and safes of the most approved make, besides being fitted up with special reference to the comfort and convenience of the customers and patrons of the bank, as well as its employes.

The institution does a general banking business, and is one of the most successful and prosperous banks in the country. The following figures will be found interesting: Since the incorporation of the bank the total net profits have been \$470,034; dividends paid, \$362,125; undivided profits, Jan. 1, 1886, \$107,909.

March 1, 1886, the First National Bank of Towanda made the subjoined report:

## RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts . . . . .	\$644,991 34
United States bonds and other securities . . . . .	148,124 00
Due from Banks and Treasurer U. S . . . . .	112,867 50
Legal tender notes, specie and bank notes . . . . .	67,220 69
Other cash items . . . . .	2,871 69
Real estate, furniture and fixtures . . . . .	22,400 00
Expenses and taxes paid . . . . .	3,194 66

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\$1,001,669 88

## LIABILITIES.

Capital . . . . .	\$125,000 00
Surplus fund and undivided profits . . . . .	113,113 36
Circulation . . . . .	111,840 00
Deposits . . . . .	651,716 52

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\$1,001,669 88

For the year ending Jan. 1, 1866, the aggregate amount of deposits was \$6,371,982; aggregate amount of loans, \$3,409,421.

The present directors of the bank are—Joseph Powell, President; N. N. Betts, Cashier; Charles L. Tracy, Vice-President; James H. Hawes, R. A. Mercur, E. W. Hale, H. L. Scott, R. O. Smith, Geo. Stevens. The efficient and gentlemanly clerks are—W. H. Dodge, O. P. Smith, L. M. Osborne and J. D. Stryker.

—In 1866 *G. F. Mason & Co.* began doing a private banking business, which was continued until 1871, when the firm failed.

*The Citizens National Bank* of Towanda was chartered June 29, 1876, and was organized with the following officers and directors: J. P. Kirby, President; Geo. A. Guernsey, Cashier; N. C. Elsbree, M. H. Laning, J. P. Kirby, J. F. Means, P. D. Morrow, B. M. Peck, Henry Streeter, J. L. Kent, M. B. Wright, N. L. Lenheim, P. R. Ackley, Directors.

J. P. Kirby was succeeded by E. T. Fox as President, Dec. 18, 1876, and Mr. Guernsey by G. W. Buck, as Cashier, Oct. 3, 1880. The Citizens National Bank is in Mercur block, on the corner of Park and Main streets, in rooms formerly occupied by M. C. Mercur as his banking

place. It is provided with the most perfect vaults, safes and locks, making it a most desirable place for money on deposit. The institution does all kinds of legitimate banking, and is in a most prosperous condition as may be seen from the following comparisons :

October report 1879—Deposits.....	\$75,800	October report 1885—Deposits.....	\$286,000
“ “ “ —Discounts.....	148,000	“ “ “ —Discounts.....	335,000
“ “ “ —Surplus.....	2,000	“ “ “ —Surplus.....	21,000
“ “ “ Volume of business done.....	291,000	“ “ “ Volume of business done.....	508,000

Since 1879 the bank has declared an annual dividend of \$9,000.

March 1, 1886, the bank made the annexed report :

#### RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts . . . . .	\$345,393 40
Overdrafts . . . . .	5,606 61
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation . . . . .	50,000 00
Other stocks, bonds, and mortgages . . . . .	28,405 78
Due from approved reserve agents . . . . .	26,692 34
Due from other National Banks . . . . .	10,932 71
Due from State Banks and bankers . . . . .	2,562 29
Real estate, furniture, and fixtures . . . . .	9,479 76
Current expenses and taxes paid . . . . .	1,244 80
Premiums paid . . . . .	4,000 00
Checks and other cash items . . . . .	967 00
Bills of other Banks . . . . .	1,330 00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and pennies . . . . .	63 78
Specie . . . . .	11,600 00
Legal tender notes . . . . .	13,812 00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer, 5 per cent. circulation . . . . .	2,250 00
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$514,340 47</b>

#### LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in . . . . .	\$150,000 00
Surplus fund . . . . .	23,000 00
Undivided profits . . . . .	3,990 73
National Bank notes outstanding . . . . .	45,000 00
Dividends unpaid . . . . .	72 00
Individual deposits subject to check . . . . .	149,600 17
Demand certificates of deposit . . . . .	141,859 70
Due to other National Banks . . . . .	762 28
Due to State Banks and bankers . . . . .	55 59
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$514,340 47</b>

The present officers and directors are : E. T. Fox, Presi-

dent; Geo. W. Buck, Cashier; E. T. Fox, Benj. M. Peck, S. W. Little, Wm. Dittrich, P. R. Ackley, Benj. Kuykendall, E. O. Macfarlane.

The punctual, efficient, and obliging clerks are O. L. Haverly and D. C. Mitten.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT \*

Among the first things to which the attention of the Council was directed after the organization of the borough, was the protection of its inhabitants from fire. Up to 1837 only four fires had occurred in Towanda. On the 16th of December, 1837, a committee, consisting of O. D. Bartlett, M. C. Mercur, G. A. Mix and Wm. R. Storm, was appointed to examine stoves, chimneys, fire-places, etc., and report in relation to the same.

At the same meeting Ordinance 24 was passed by the Council, laying a tax of \$150 for the purchase of 100 fire buckets, necessary fire hooks and ladders.

Ordinance No. 25 was passed, providing for four fire wardens each year.

January 12, 1838, Enos Tompkins was authorized to procure hooks and ladders for the use of the borough.

June 18, 1838, the Council directed the High Constable to see that the fire engine was put in order and kept under shelter.

The first engine of the village was a "rotary," and was operated by cranks on each side with four men to each. It had no "suction hose," and the box was filled with water by the Bucket Company. The leading hose was about sixteen feet long. It was named the "Alley," and did service until the burning of the "dry kiln" on the river bank, in 1849, when it was condemned and thrown into the Susquehanna.

March 11, 1839, the Council passed a resolution to appropriate \$125 for the erection of an engine house, to be located

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\* We are greatly indebted to J. V. Geiger for the preparation of nearly the whole of this article.

on the public square, between the Court House and "fire-proof." The building was put up at a cost of \$118 by John Morris, and stood on the ground now occupied by the present Court House. It was one story, sixteen feet front, and forty feet deep. It was subsequently moved to the lot now occupied by the double brick residence nearly opposite the post-office, and the Franklin hand engine was housed there until the completion of the present engine house in 1856.

March 30, 1840, the Council passed the following resolution: "*Resolved*, That E. W. Baird is hereby appointed principal director of the fire department, and William Elwell assistant director of said department, for the ensuing year" —the first mentioned Chief Engineer and Assistant.

The truck for carrying the hooks and ladders was constructed out of a part of a one-horse lumber wagon, was given a long reach and otherwise transformed, and was in use for several years.

By resolution of the Council April 21, 1842, the engine house was changed into a "market house," and for several years the "engine house war" was kept up until finally it was agreed that the engine and truck should have a place in the rear of the building and that the front should be used for the "city market."

The old fire department collapsed when the engine was thrown in the river in 1849. There were but few fires until 1852-53, when they were so frequent, often two in a week, that the citizens became alarmed and measures at once were taken to purchase an engine and the necessary hose. The Council invited loans for the purchase of fire engine and apparatus, and in a few days \$1555 were raised. Dec. 1853 the Burgess contracted with L. Button & Co., of Waterford, N. Y., for an engine of 28-man power and 500 feet of leather leading hose. At a meeting of the Council, March 25, 1854, on motion of James Mackinson the name of the new engine was styled "Franklin No. 1." The engine arrived and was accepted by the committee on examination, April 7, 1854. A company was nearly enrolled at this time.

At a meeting of the committee appointed to enroll members for the "Franklin Fire Company" and of the enrolled members of said company held at the Court House, April 11, 1854, Robt C. Simpson, W. C. Bogart and James Kinsman were appointed a committee to draft by-laws for the organization and government of the company.

By a special act of the Legislature the ground now occupied by the engine house was secured, "allowing a building to be erected on the county ground to be used jointly by the county and the borough." June 21, 1856, the work on the engine house was let to John Beidleman (the brick work) and H. L. Lamoreux (the wood work). The company have occupied the building since January 20, 1857, and have fitted it up in a manner that makes it an attractive place to hold their meetings each month.

Fires becoming frequent in 1867-68, the Franklin Company deemed it necessary to procure a steam fire engine. A subscription paper was circulated and a sufficient sum was promptly raised to purchase a Silsby's rotary steam engine and 500 feet of hose. It was first used at a fire which destroyed Ward and Montanye's barn, Dec. 11, 1870.

The company has continued to defend the citizens from fire and are now, as they ever have been, active and vigilant in the performance of their duties as firemen. At an early stage of their organization they adopted the following motto: "*Always on hand and ready for action!*" and right gallantly have they carried it out, as our citizens have time and again witnessed.

During the war for the preservation of the Union, members of the Franklin company could be found in the various military organizations that went to the front from this vicinity—many of them never returning to the home of childhood or adoption. The company has a carefully preserved list of these members.

Among the original members of the Franklin Company, and of whom the present members are justly proud, we find the names of D. Wilmot, E. O. Goodrich, J. G. Patton, Jas.

Macfarlane, C. S. Russell, Joseph Powell, E. A. Parsons, Ulysses Mercur, H. Booth (Judge, Chicago), Wm. Elwell, Joseph Pratt (Judge, Philadelphia), E. Overton, W. T. Davies, Geo. D. Montanye, John W. Mix, M. C. Mercur. The names of prominent citizens could be given by scores. But the above list shows that the company had among its active workers men that are identified "with the Nation" as well as with the Franklin Fire Company. The following is a fact of which the company may well feel proud: "From the organization of the company on April 11, 1854, to April, 1886, never had a member of the Franklin Company been before the Court charged with any crime!"

*Naiad Engine and Hose Co., No. 2.*

This company was instituted April 24, 1855; reorganized April 15, 1870, and incorporated July 8, 1881. It was at first designed for boys under 17 years of age. However, this ruling did not last long, and now by the conditions of the charter no one can be a member of the company under 18 years, the whole number of members being limited to fifty. The company is made up of active young men who have especially distinguished themselves in their promptness at the fires, ever endeavoring to sustain their motto—"First at the Fire." The property of the company consists of two hand engines, a "Button" and a "Cowing," parade carriage, service jumper, and about 700 feet of hose. The Naiad Parlors in Mercur's are elegantly furnished and second to none in the Northern Tier. The annual receptions given by the company have always been of the first order and largely attended. For two years the company sustained an excellent musical organization.

*Lin-ta Steam Fire Co., No. 3.*

This company was instituted Sept. 28, 1857, and incorporated May, 1871. It is composed of the best citizens of Towanda, and has a membership of 50, the charter limiting the number to 100. The company owns a handsome two-story brick engine house on Poplar street, which, together

with hose carriage is worth \$6,000. Up to the time of the establishment of water company, the Lin-ta's owned a rotary steam fire engine with hose carriage and attachments; and for several years sustained the Lin-ta Band—one of the best and most finely equipped bands, in instruments and uniforms, in the State. W. K. Marshall is the only charter member still belonging to the company, and is perhaps the only one that has filled all the offices.

*Mantua Hook and Ladder Co., No. 4.*

This company was organized in March, 1871, and re-organized in 1884. It has a very fine new hook and ladder truck, supplied with buckets, picks, axes, extension ladders, etc., and comprises about 30 active members. The company have rooms in the Franklin engine house..

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From 1853 to 1873 the total number of fires was 63, and the total number of buildings destroyed, 156; from Aug. 1873 to April, 1886 the number of buildings burned in Towanda was 81. The most disastrous fire the town ever had was March 12, 1847.

LOCAL ELEVATIONS.

Table Rock—above tide . . . . .	1317	ft
Summit, near Table Rock . . . . .	1340	"
Summit of Towanda Hills, about . . . . .	1450	"
Plateau between Towanda and Sugar Creeks, average,	1200	"
Top of dam of Towanda Water Works on Patton's		
Run . . . . .	1015	"
Top of dam of distributing reservoir . . . . .	958.6	"
Railroad bridge—top of rail, west end . . . . .	735.8	"
Public bridge—west end at floor . . . . .	732.9	"
Water Table to Court House . . . . .	727.6	"
Main street, in front of Court House . . . . .	732	"
Bridge street with Main . . . . .	735	"
“ “ “ Second . . . . .	777	"
“ “ “ Third . . . . .	802	"



Charles street, above Fifth . . . . .	910	ft
At the angle of street near Jas. Wood's . . . . .	978	"
South borough line . . . . .	1098	
High water mark, March 17, 1865 . . . . .	722.6	
"    "    "    Dec., 1878 . . . . .	714.6	
Low    "    "    Nov., 1882 . . . . .	693.8	

## SOCIETIES.

*Union Lodge, No. 108*, (Masonic) was chartered March 7, 1807, and was instituted April 3rd following, by Jos. Kingsbury at the house of Amos Mix, in Wysox, with the following officers: Horatio Grant, W. M.; Amos Mix, S. W.; Ebenezer Tuttle, J. W.; Josiah Grant, Treas.; Geo. Scott, Sec.; Wm. Myer, Steward; Cyp Grant, S. D.; Wm. B. Whitney, J. D.; Wm. B. Foster, Tiler. As set forth in the charter the meetings of the lodge were to be held alternately in the townships of Orwell and Wysox. This arrangement was observed till about 1815-16, when the house of Wm. Myer in Wysox was selected as the place of meeting, and continued as such till 1829. Owing to the anti-Masonic movements at this time the lodge only met on rare occasions till November 14, 1839, when a meeting was held at the house of Wm. Myer and the lodge thoroughly and energetically revived. Since that time its meetings have been continuous. Dec. 1839, the scene of its labors was changed to Towanda, where its meetings were at first held in the old "Fire Proof," and since 1856-57 in the Kingsbury block. The lodge is the strongest in the county and has a membership of 184. The lodge works under its old charter and preserves its old records with much pride, finding in them many names identified not only with Bradford county's history but carried on the rolls of State and National fame. Lodge meets first Wednesday of each month. Its co-ordinate branches are:

*Chapter No. 161*, chartered 1846. Meets second Wednesday of each month;

*Northern Commandery, No. 16*, chartered 1856. Meets fourth Wednesday of each month.

*Bradford Lodge No. 167, I. O. O. F.*, was chartered March 9, 1846, and instituted July 1, 1846, with the following officers: William Elwell, N. G.; Stephen Pierce, V. G.; Chas. Reed, Sec.; O. R. Tyler, Treas.; E. W. Baird, Asst. Sec. Since the institution of the lodge 556 members have belonged. C. S. Russell is the only one of the charter members still connected with the society. During the first thirty-six years of the existence of the lodge in a membership of 533 only 14 died.

Bradford Lodge is the wealthiest in the county and ranks second in membership (98). On her roll-book may be seen almost scores of familiar names, who have filled places of honor in the county, State and Nation. Night of meeting, Monday evening of each week.

*Bradford Encampment of Patriarchs, No. 41, (I. O. O. F.)* was chartered June 22, 1846, and instituted Aug. 27, of the same year, with the following officers: Wm. H. Strickland, C. P.; D. C. Salisbury, H. P.; E. W. Morgan, S. W.; G. F. Mason, J. W.; I. H. Stephens, Scribe. The society was re-organized Aug. 26, 1872, with E. J. Clauson, C. P.; C. S. Russell, H. P.; G. W. Ryan, S. W.; Warren Hill, J. W.; J. V. Churchill, Scribe; A. J. Noble, Treas.; Chas. Fraley, I. S.; Abel Barner, O. S.; and has a membership of 46. Meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

*Towanda Lodge, No. 290, Knights of Pythias.*—This order which was first introduced to the public as a military organization, taking its origin in the U. S. Army during the late war, is a beneficiary society, having for its object the mutual aid and relief of its members in distress and want. The Towanda lodge, the first in the county, was chartered April 6, 1871. At its organization the principal officers were H. S. Clark, V. P.; H. J. Madill, C. C.; G. H. Horton, V. C.; A. D. Harding, K. of R. S. Cash fund on hand, \$3,000; number of members, about 90; lodge meets Tuesday evening of each week.

*Watkins Post, No. 68, G. A. R.*, was organized June 17, 1867, with H. A. Frink, Commander, and was kept up till

1869 when it was disbanded. The Post was reorganized Dec. 19, 1873, with the following officers: H. J. Madill, Commander; J. E. Fleming, S. V. C.; James Foster, J. V. C.; D. W. Scott, Q. M.; W. B. Kelly, Surg.; O. D. Lyon, Chaplain; E. Overton, Jr., O. D.; D. L. Sweeny, O. G.; C. F. Cross, Adj. The Post is one of the most active in the county and has a membership of 100. Meets Friday evening of each week.

*Watkins Camp, Sons of Veterans, No. 75*, was chartered Nov. 17, 1884. The original officers were—G. M. Watkins, Captain; Thos. Miles, First Lieutenant; Jonathan Bennett, Second Lieutenant; H. M. Dodge, O. Sg't; Wallace Harris, Chaplain; Ephraim Lewis, Color Sg't; Chas. Ratty, Sg't of G.; Elmer Lewis, Corp'l of G. Number of members, 25; night of meeting, Tuesday evening of each week.

*Women's Relief Corps of the G. A. R.*, at Towanda, was organized Dec. 29, 1885. Its primary object is the dispensing of charity among such soldiers and their families as need aid. The first officers elected are—President, Mrs. Maria A. Watkins; Senior Vice President, Mary D. Newton; Junior Vice President, Cecil L. Walke; Secretary, Clara A. St. John; Treasurer, Ella V. Myer; Chaplain, D. W. Scott; Conductor, D. J. Sweet; Assistant Conductor, W. T. Horton; Guard, Bell Rockwell; Associate Guard, Harriet T. Wilson. The Corps meets every first and third Wednesday of each month.

*Order of the Iron Hall—Branch No. 3* (beneficial) chartered May 21, 1881. Original officers—J. R. Kittredge, C. J.; F. J. Hungerford, Vice; W. J. Bresee, Accountant; W. G. Gordon, Cashier; D. S. Pratt, Med. Ex.; C. F. Cross, Prelate; Geo. S. Estell, Adjuster; W. K. Marshall, Herald; Frank Vought, Watchman; John Northrup, Vidette. Number of members, 26; night of meeting, third Wednesday of each month.

*Towanda Council, No. 532, Royal Arcanum* (beneficial), chartered Oct. 20, 1880. Original officers—W. B. Kelly, Regent; L. B. Coburn, V. Regent; S. M. Woodburn, Ora-

tor ; D. H. Turner, P. Regent ; A. S. Gordon, Sec'y ; W. J. Bresee, Col. ; M. J. Long, Treasurer ; A. D. Dye, Chap. ; W. S. Rickey, Guide ; C. F. Taylor, Warden ; E. D. Rundell, Sentinel.

*Catholic Mutual Benefit Association—Branch No. 19* (beneficial), was founded through the instrumentality of John Sullivan, of Branch No. 19. The charter was granted Jan. 29, 1881. The original officers were—John Sullivan, President ; Wm. Foyle, First V. P. ; David Sheridan, Second V. P. ; John McNamara, R. Sec. ; Geo. Quigley, Asst. Sec. ; Maurice Condon, F. Sec. ; John Arnold, Treas. ; J. C. Blum, Marshal ; F. J. Blum, Guard. Number of members, 21 ; meets first and third Thursdays of each month.

*Knights of Honor—Lodge No. 57* was chartered Jan. 14, 1875. The charter members were—C. H. Allen, L. R. Frost, E. W. Venable, S. M. Woodburn, G. S. McCabe, W. K. Marshall, F. H. Mathews, H. G. W. Heath, C. M. Myer. Number of members, 73 ; meets every Monday evening.

*Knights and Ladies of Honor—Mystic Lodge, No. 40*, was chartered April 1, 1879. The charter members were—J. R. Kittredge, Elizabeth A. Kittredge, S. M. Woodburn, M. E. Woodburn, John Braund, Rachel D. Braund, G. A. Dayton, Dorcas M. Dayton, C. D. Passage, Mary A. Passage, F. E. Post, Anna S. Post, C. M. Myer, M. Frank Myer, S. W. Rodgers, Mary A. Rodgers, O. D. Wickham, Hannah J. Wickham, S. G. Titus, Alice M. Titus, Frank Rosenfield, Mary E. Aldrich. Number of members, 40 ; meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

*Equitable Aid Union, No. 500*, was chartered January, 1885. Original officers—C. S. Russell, President ; Jesse Myer, Sec. ; C. C. Mower, Accountant ; M. J. Long, Treasurer. Numbers over 50 members ; meets first Wednesday of each month.

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*Hebrew Congregation* have held services annually for about fifteen years, on New Year's day, a Rabbi officiating. For four or five years the meetings of the congregation have

been held several times each year. The number of members is about 18.

#### NATIONAL GUARD.

A company of the National Guard of Pennsylvania was organized in Towanda, January 20th, 1876, and the following commissioned officers were elected, viz: Joseph H. Horton, Captain; D. L. Sweeney, First Lieutenant, and J. Andrew Wilt, Second Lieutenant.

The company was assigned to the Twelfth Regiment as Company K, and attended its first inspection by the Governor and Adjutant-General at Williamsport, May 19, 1876. It performed a week's tour of camp duty at Philadelphia during the Centennial, in August, 1876. Captain Horton removed from the State, and D. L. Sweeney was elected Captain on July 21st, 1876, and at the same time J. A. Wilt was promoted First Lieutenant and Corporal John Taylor promoted Second Lieutenant.

The company left Towanda July 21, 1877, and served three weeks during the riots, and during this time was stationed at Tyrone and Altoona, Pa.

In 1878 Captain Sweeney removed from Towanda, and Lieut. Wilt was promoted to Captain, Dec. 8th, 1878, John Taylor to First Lieutenant, and Oliver D. Lyon to Second Lieutenant.

In 1879 the company was assigned to the Ninth Regiment.

Since 1880 the company has performed a week's tour of camp duty each year, and has always ranked as one of the best companies in the Guard.

The officers and members of the company devoted considerable time to rifle practice, and as a result, in all contests of the company in firing by *file* or *volley*, made the highest scores of any company in the Ninth Regiment. Private John M. Edson, in 1880, and Capt. J. A. Wilt, in 1882, were selected as one of the team from Pennsylvania to go to Creedmoor to compete with teams from the other States. Capt. Wilt was also a member of the Third Brigade team at Gettysburg in 1884.

First Lieutenant John Taylor resigned Feb. 18th, 1881, and O. D. Lyon was promoted to First Lieutenant and Sergeant John Henley to Second Lieutenant, April 19th, 1881. Lieut. O. D. Lyon resigned Dec. 17th, 1884. On the 3d of February, 1885, Sergeant John Taylor was again promoted to First Lieutenant, and resigned Dec. 15th, 1885.

An order was issued in December, 1885, disbanding the company, but a hearing was granted by the Governor, and at present writing (April 20, 1886,) the matter is still pending.

#### THE TOWANDA GAS COMPANY

Was originally chartered in 1859, as the Towanda Gas and Water Company. In 1879 the company released its water franchise in favor of the Towanda Water Company. In 1870 active operations were begun in the erection of suitable buildings for the manufacture of gas, which was first furnished for consumption in November of that year. The first officers chosen in 1869 were J. M. Ward, President; John W. Means, Secretary; C. S. Russell, Treasurer. In May, 1869, E. T. Elliott succeeded Mr. Ward, who in turn was succeeded by Henry Streeter in 1877, who is still the executive officer of the company. The other present officers are N. N. Betts, Sec'y; Henry Streeter, Treasurer; C. P. Spalding, Superintendent, a place which he has filled since 1869. The enterprise is a commendable one, and is of no little importance to the business interests and convenience of the villagers. Seven miles of main pipes have been laid, supplying over 200 families and 52 street lamps. The price of gas is \$2.50 per thousand feet.

#### THE TOWANDA WATER WORKS

Was chartered in 1879. In 1879-80 the Wiley Construction Company, of Greenfield, Mass., forming a part of the Towanda Water Company, laid iron piping from Patton's Run to Towanda, receiving the water in a reservoir, from which it is distributed throughout the town as far back as Mechanic street by distributing pipes. Fifty hydrants have

been placed at proper points, to protect the entire borough in case of fires. The water supply from Patton's Run not being sufficient for the whole year, a pumping station was put in in 1881, which forces water from the Susquehanna to the receiving reservoir at the rate of 1,200 gallons per minute. The water thus supplied the town bears a very fine chemical analysis and is used for culinary and all other purposes. The hotels, offices and 320 families are now using it. The water supply is a matter of much consideration and value to the town. E. T. Fox is President of the Company, and C. Scannell, Superintendent.

#### THE BOARD OF TRADE.

On Monday evening, Feb. 1, 1886, pursuant to a notice in the *Reporter-Journal* made after consultation with prominent business men, a meeting was held in the Grand Jury room to discuss the advisability of forming a Board of Trade for Towanda. At that meeting the unanimous sentiment of those present, comprising a majority of the leading business men of Towanda, was that such an organization was desirable, and the necessary preliminary steps were taken. The Chairman, Hon. C. S. Russell, appointed a committee on constitution and by-laws, and after mutual discussion the meeting adjourned for two weeks. At the appointed time the second or adjourned meeting was held in the room of the Town Council, and the constitution and by-laws were adopted. By the constitution the last Monday evening in February was fixed for the annual meeting, and accordingly on the evening of February 22d, the persons interested gathered in the Town Council room, signed the constitution and by-laws, paid their membership fee, and elected officers for the first year. Thirty-nine persons and firms joined, including the leading manufacturers, bankers, merchants, and other business men of the town. The officers elected for the first year were as follows: President, Charles L. Tracy; First Vice-President, H. F. Marsh; Second Vice-President, D. T. Evans; Treasurer, Geo. W. Buck; Secretary, L. R. Frost; Trustees, I. O. Blight, M. C. Mercur, N. N. Betts.

## CEMETERIES.

The first persons who died while the county was yet new were buried at Cole's, and in a burial ground which was started on Second street in Towanda village.

*Riverside Cemetery.*

Harry Spalding donated a strip of land 75 feet wide in the "Northern Liberties," extending from William street to the river, for burial purposes, and thus started what is known as "Riverside Cemetery"—it being on a high bank overlooking the Susquehanna. Dec. 21, 1839, Hiram Mix deeded to Wm. B. Storm, H. S. Mercur and Enos Tompkins, trustees, a plot of ground of about two and one-half acres immediately south and adjacent to the Spalding grant, "in trust to be forever used as a burial ground." The Neal addition, of about the same area, has since been made adjoining the original plot on the north. In 1863 E. W. Hale and B. S. Russell were appointed trustees in the place of Storm and Tompkins, Russell since having been succeeded by C. M. Manville. Many of the pioneers and distinguished personages, among them the celebrated David Wilmot, are sculphred at Riverside.

*Oak Hill Cemetery*

Was incorporated Sept. 18, 1882, and is situated one mile from the Court House, near the northern boundary of Towanda borough, on lands recently owned by Wealthy Ann Kingsbury, containing 30 acres. The beautiful view of the Susquehanna and valley, hills and mountains, together with a natural and perfect drainage—soil of loam and gravel—makes this place especially adapted to the purposes of a cemetery. The plan of the grounds, beautifully and systematically arranged, was made by Peter B. Mead, of New York, and comprises 821 family lots and several hundred single grave lots. Oak Hill in time will be one of the finest burial places in the State.

The officers of the corporation are—Joseph Powell, President; C. P. Welles, Sec'y; W. Henry Dodge, Treasurer;



Joseph Powell, C. B. Porter, Wm. Dittrich, Executive Committee ; Wm. Little, Wm. Dittrich, C. P. Welles, Joseph Powell, C. L. Tracy, C. B. Porter, R. A. Mercur, C. S. Russell, Geo. Stevens, Directors.

*The Catholics* have two cemeteries. The old one is situated some distance above Riverside, on the river bank ; and the "new cemetery, beautifully situated and systematically plotted, on a rise of ground in North Towanda.

#### NOTES.

—The greatest business depression ever known in Towanda was in 1842-43.

—The Spring of 1840 is memorable in Towanda as "the great small pox scare."

—The social circles of Towanda twenty and thirty years ago, were especially noted for the large number of literary characters belonging to them.

—The "Hay Scales," which stood where the music stand now does, was for many years a noted rendezvous for the villagers.

—"The Overshot" takes its name from the fact of the building of an overshot saw-mill on a little stream in the north-west corner of Towanda township, many years ago, by C. L. Ward and J. F. Means.

—Aug. 12, 1885, Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson's great consolidated show exhibited at Towanda. The crowd was the largest ever assembled in the place, estimated from 15,000 to 25,000 persons. The assemblage was remarkable for its orderliness.

—The first show ever held in Towanda was in 1820, in the horse barn of Wm. Means. The company traveled by wagons. The animals on exhibition were a lion, Bengal tiger and monkey. The music consisted of a hand-organ, and the only performing was done by the monkey and lion. A large section of the county was represented at the exhibition. The price of admission was 12½ cents and 25 cents.

—*The First Circus* ever held in Towanda was Harrington's

in the year 1829. The tent was pitched in the public square, and exhibitions given every afternoon and evening for three or four days. The performances consisted of ring-riding, lofty tumbling, clown singing, etc. "Master Leroy," a lad of eight years was the pet of the troupe, and did marvelous feats in horseback riding, considering his age. So popular was he in the town, that Leroy Woodruff, then a child unnamed, was so called after him. Mr. Harrington traveled with wagons. A notable feature of his exhibition was that all his performing horses were spotted. The circus created a great sensation and was largely attended by people from various parts of the county. The price of admission was a "levy" (12½c.) and 25c. It is said that the circus had so much pleased the village boys that for months after they could be found in some secluded place turning somersaults, standing on their heads, etc.

—"Rev. Mr. Thacker preached and organized a Presbyterian church at the house of Rudolph Fox, prior to 1800, which had only a short and feeble existence. Minor York was the first regular minister of this denomination."

—Among the first teachers in the Foster neighborhood may be mentioned Catharine Frisbie, in about 1811, who was followed by Israel Morse (or Moss), and Lucy Granger. Those of the Towanda hills were James Crooks, Binona Finch (about 1817-18), Wm. Riley, Nancy Smith, Mr. Farnsworth, and Mr. Hart. On the hills above Sugar Creek, John W. Bingham, Dr. Alexander, Calvin Sellard, Elizabeth Fisher. Schools were taught here as early as 1806.

#### TOWANDA'S PRINCIPAL BUSINESS INTERESTS.

##### *The Towanda Iron Manufacturing Company*

Was chartered July 23, 1870. July 9, 1870, those that had subscribed for stock met to organize the company. Col. G. F. Mason was called to the chair, and S. W. Alvord chosen Secretary. Thirty-one thousand dollars was fixed upon as the capital stock, and committees were appointed to draw up by-laws, to visit other works, and to determine a suitable

place for location. At the same meeting, Col. G. F. Mason, N. C. Elsbree, H. L. Scott, J. A. Coddington, T. C. DeLano, Wm. Griffiths and Geo. Stevens were elected Directors, and A. G. Mason, Secretary and Treasurer. Aug. 4, 1870, the stockholders met and voted to add \$20,000 to the capital stock, and the directors were instructed to proceed to erect a bar iron and nail mill. At a meeting of the directors, July 11, 1871, Col. G. F. Mason was elected President. June 11, 1872, Col. Mason resigned, and H. L. Scott was elected to fill his place. July 2, 1872, Mr. Scott resigned and accepted the office of Secretary and Treasurer, whereupon Col. J. F. Means was made President. In November, 1873, the capital stock of the company was increased to \$125,000. The building, which is located in South Towanda, was completed and the manufacture of nails commenced in the Fall of 1872. The establishment consists of main building, 75x150 feet, with two wings, each 40x60 feet. All contain three double puddling furnaces, four heating furnaces, a nail plate mill, a puddle bar mill, scrap train, thirty-one nail machines, a set of shears for preparing scrap iron for heating furnaces, a powerful fan blower, and other machinery of various kinds. The motive power is furnished by five engines, the factory having a capacity of 250 kegs of nails per day. Iron and steel nails of all sizes and styles are manufactured from pig iron, and the Towanda nails have achieved an enviable reputation in the market as first-class goods. Employment is given to 115 men and boys. In 1876 the old company suspended, and the factory remained inactive till December, 1879, when the establishment was leased and finally purchased by R. A. Bostley & Co., of Milton, Pa. The new company at once began repairs, and operations were again resumed in February, 1880, since having been successfully continued and the facilities enlarged about one-third. Mr. R. A. Bostley superintends the works in person, and the people of Towanda are largely indebted to him for the successful management of the most important enterprise located at the county seat.

*Humphrey Brothers & Tracy,*

Manufacturers of boots and shoes, commenced business on the corner of Main and Elizabeth streets, Aug. 1, 1871, although the members of the firm had been for some time previously engaged in the boot and shoe trade. In 1871, the company purchased of Captain James Bryant a brick structure which he had erected the year before for a carriage factory, and converted it into a boot and shoe establishment. In 1882, the building becoming somewhat dangerous, was taken down, and the present substantial, convenient structure was erected on the same site. It is of brick, 40x80 feet, five stories, with an elevator running from bottom to top. The factory is supplied with all the facilities and latest improvements for manufacturing boots and shoes. The machinery is run by steam power. Especial attention is given to the manufacture of men's, youths' and boys' boots and women's, misses' and children's pegged shoes. Only first-class work is turned out, which for strength and durability has gained a wide reputation. In addition, the firm also do an extensive jobbing trade in the lighter grades of goods. Seventy-five men are employed, and the business is conducted with despatch and system. Five agents are constantly kept on the road, the annual sales amounting to \$400,000. The firm is a most reliable one, and have been very successful in their undertaking. The enterprise is second in importance of Towanda's business interests. The firm is composed of I. B. Humphrey, C. D. Humphrey and Chas. L. Tracy.

*J. O. Frost's Sons.*

Many enterprises have existed in Towanda from time to time, but most have finally gone down or moved to more favorable locations.●

To no small extent is Towanda indebted to the pluck and enterprise of J. O. Frost & Sons. Many times struggling with misfortune, they have ever been faithful to the town and given her citizens employment.

In 1865 J. O. Frost purchased of Chester Wells a small stock of goods, and at once laid plans for a large furniture store and factory in Towanda. Accordingly, buildings were purchased on Main, Pine and Court streets and a large stock of goods put in, and in 1866 the manufacture of furniture commenced in a small way in the basement of the Pine street building. In 1871 the firm of J. O. Frost & Sons was organized and a large factory immediately erected on Charles street, which was supplied with the best machinery and gave employment to 30 men. Their business gradually increased, and improvements and men were added to meet the demands of their trade. In 1876 J. O. Frost retired, since which time the firm name has been J. O. Frost's Sons. In 1882 the factory, with all its contents and about 100,000 feet of lumber, was destroyed by fire. Their characteristic energy was again shown. Purchasing the foundry buildings of J. F. Means, in thirty days they had new machinery in and the new factory in running order. The enterprise gives employment in its several departments to sixty-five men, and has an increasing trade. The firm have carried a retail furniture business in connection with manufacturing, but sold the former to Smith Brothers & Turner in April, 1886. Their whole attention is now given to the manufacture of chamber suits, bedsteads, and extension tables, both finished and in the white.

### *Dayton's Flouring Mills.*

In 1880 George A. Dayton purchased the mill property originally established by G. F. Mason, overhauled it and put in new and improved machinery. Again in 1882 he made additions to the mill, and put in the new process on wheat and all the improvements in the milling art on buckwheat. The mill now has a capacity of 300 barrels of wheat and buckwheat flour per day, besides two car-loads of feed. The establishment gives employment to twenty men, generally keeping two salesmen on the road. Mr. Dayton does an exchange business in wheat and buckwheat, custom work

in chop, besides a merchant milling business. The mill is the best equipped in the county, and is second to no other institution in the State, in the quality of flour manufactured. Mr. Dayton is an energetic, straight-forward business man, and keeps his mill in operation day and night to meet the demands of his constantly increasing trade.

*Rodgers & Hale.*

This firm was originally established as L. B. Rodgers & Co., on Plank Road street, in 1864. Attention was given to lumber dressing, and the manufacture of sash, doors and blinds. The original factory was burned in 1873 and rebuilt in 1873-74. It gave employment to about forty men. Mr. Rodgers bought out M. C. Mercur (the company) in 1874 and continued the business alone till May, 1882, when Benj. T. Hale was taken into co-partnership. Aug. 2, 1884, their factory was burned, when they bought out N. P. Hicks and immediately re-commenced manufacturing. About 25 men are employed. Attention is also given to builders' supplies, with some attention to the building of secretaries, &c. Messrs. Rodgers & Hale, like the Messrs. Frost, are entitled to no little consideration.

*James Bryant,*

Successor of G. H. Drake in the manufacture of carriages, began business on the ground of Humphrey Bros. & Tracy in 1866. In 1869 he was burned out, suffering a loss of several thousand dollars. In 1870 he built the extensive shops which were afterwards purchased by Humphrey Brothers & Tracy, and in 1872 the spacious building which he now occupies. His factory is located on the corner of Elizabeth and Railroad streets. It is a fine brick structure of 26x101 feet. The works consist of a blacksmith shop, 26x50 feet, three forges; wood shop, 26x50 feet, four benches; trimming shop, 20x26 feet; varnish and ware-rooms, 26x60 feet. At present eight men are employed, and sixty vehicles, at an average cost of \$100 each, are turned out annually. Mr. Bryant makes a specialty of open and covered carriages and

spring wagons of the neatest and latest designs. The work turned out from his shops is strictly first-class and unexcelled in the State. A general repair shop is also run in connection.

*H. Elsbree & Co.*

Was formed in August, 1885, as cigar manufacturers. A factory was opened on the Porfer farm and employment given to sixteen hands. Feb. 17, 1886, the factory and contents were destroyed by fire. The company re-commenced business March 24th following, in the second story of the Stulen carriage shops. Employment is given to twenty hands. Seven different brands are manufactured, the "Little Mischief" being the most popular. A salesman is kept on the road, and the firm enjoys an increasing trade. The enterprise is a commendable one, and will grow.

*Towanda Foundry Company.*

The business was originally established by John Carman, who sold to Col. J. F. Means in 1870. In 1871 the firm of Means, Rockwell & Co. was formed, which continued business till 1876. In 1882 the foundry and machine shops were purchased by J. O. Frost's Sons, and the *Towanda Foundry Company* formed, consisting of M. A. Rockwell, F. H. Wariner, and J. O. Frost's Sons. The company have a growing business and employ sixteen men. Especial attention is given to the manufacture of shingle mills, saw mills and lath mills. Engines of various kinds are also constructed in their shops, and general repairing of all kinds done. Circular saws, fittings of all descriptions, agricultural implements, etc., are dealt in. Skillful workmen are employed, and all work guaranteed.

TOWANDA DIRECTORY—1886.

*Postmaster*—E. A. Parsons.

*Burgess*—Edward Frost.

*Council*—W. G. Gordon, W. K. Marshall, Benj. Kuykendall, E. O. Macfarlane, Isaac Middaugh, Isaiah McPherson, C. M. Myer, Mahlon Carman, Edward Frost.

*Borough Secretary and Treasurer*—Joseph Kingsbury.

*Justices of the Peace*—John A. Coddington, Chas. M. Hall.

*School Directors*—M. J. Long, President; Jas. H. Coddington, Sec'y; W. H. Dodge, Treas.; John M. Rahm, Jas. A. Bull, E. L. Hillis, (Geo. A. Dayton, new).

*Assessor*—H. T. Stevens.

*Collector*—A. Wickham.

*Constable*—John Merideth.

*High Constable*—John H. Orcutt.

*Chief of Police*—Chas. W. Dimock.

*Night Police*—Jacob Ellis.

*U. S. Commissioner*—John W. Mix.

*Notaries Public*—O. L. Haverly, C. S. Russell, W. H. Dodge, Geo. S. Estell.

#### PROFESSIONAL.

*Physicians*—D. S. Pratt, T. B. Johnson, J. W. Lyman, D. N. Newton, C. M. Pratt, S. M. Woodburn, E. D. Payne, C. K. Ladd, L. M. Mingos, F. G. Newton.

*Electricians*—Mrs. Coverdale, Miss Beidelman.

*Dentists*—Wm. B. Kelly, F. Kingsley, P. J. Smith, C. S. Rogers.

*Attorneys*—John F. Sanderson, E. Overton, Jr., N. C. Elsbree, R. A. Mercur, Jas. H. Coddington, S. W. Little, B. M. Peck, D'A. Overton, H. N. Williams, D. C. DeWitt, Wm. Maxwell, Wm. Little, W. T. Davies, J. A. Wilt, E. J. Angle, J. W. Coddington, S. S. Kirby, J. P. Keeney, E. L. Hillis, Jno. W. Mix, E. A. Thompson, Wm. Foyle, Henry Streeter, L. M. Hall, John N. Califf, I. McPherson, L. Elsbree, C. M. Hall, E. Smith, Theo. C. Disbrow, Jas. H. Webb, J. F. Phinney, H. B. McKean.

*Surveyors*—H. E. Bull, G. V. Myer.

#### HOTELS.

*Ward House*—\*T. R. Jordan, Proprietor.

*Elwell House*—Ornal Kellogg, “

*Seeley's Hotel*—Chas. H. Seeley, “

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\* Has been engaged in the hotel business in Towanda since 1860--first in the "Red Tavern."



<i>Tidd's Hotel</i>	—Eugene Baker,	Proprietor.
<i>Henry House</i>	—M. Cummiskey,	"
<i>International Hotel</i>	—John Hillis,	"
<i>American Hotel</i>	—Cogswell Brothers,	"
<i>Walbridge House</i>	—S. W. Walbridge,	"
<i>Travellers' Home</i>	—S. H. Barrett,	"
<i>Bradford House</i>	—Thos. Grace,	"
<i>Aurora House</i>	—Theo. C. Disbrow,	"
<i>Barclay Junction Hotel</i>	—R. Caton,	"
<i>Bolan's Hotel</i>	—Wm. Bolan,	"

## EATING-HOUSES.

<i>Senate Restaurant</i>	—James Nestor, Proprietor.
<i>Park Restaurant</i>	—Johnson & McGaw, Proprietors.
<i>Cahill's Restaurant</i>	—A. B. Cahill, Proprietor.

## BUSINESS PLACES.

*General Merchants*—Powell & Co.—Joseph Powell, T. C. DeLano, E. T. Noble.

*Dry Goods*—Evans & Hildreth—D. T. Evans, H. C. Hildreth, 1870.

W. H. D. Green, 1883.

Felch & Co.

*Dry Goods and Millinery*—M. E. Dyer; 1884.

*Millinery and Ladies' Fancy Goods*—Mrs. E. Madden, 1874; Alex. Hyman, 1882; Mrs. Fanny Keeler, 1883; Miss E. M. Stone, 1884.

*Ready-Made Clothing*—M. E. Rosenfield, 1867; Harris Jacobs, 1868; J. K. Bush, 1875; Decker Bros.—G. M. Decker, J. A. Decker, E. L. Decker, 1875.

*Merchant Tailors*—F. P. Grady, 1878; D. McDonald, 1885; J. Hyman, 1885; W. J. Davies, cutter for Decker Bros., 1886; Edward Jones; J. H. Carey; A. Pennepacker.

*Boots, Shoes, &c.*—G. M. Clark, 1868; M. J. Larkin, 1871; Quigley & Whalen—George Quigley, Edw. Whalen, 1884; J. F. Corser (1875), successor to Corser & Coons (1872); J. R. McKeeby, 1886.

*Books, Stationery, &c.*—C. F. Cross, 1867; S. P. Whitcomb, 1872.

*Drugs, Medicines, &c.*—Henry C. Porter (1877), successor to Dr. H. C. Porter (1848); C. T. Kirby (1872), successor to Porter & Kirby (1868); C. B. Porter, 1872; Turner & Gordon, 1872—D. H. Turner, W. G. Gordon.

*Watchmakers, Jewelers, &c.*—Wm. A. Chamberlin, 1840; A. N. Nelson, 1872; M. Hendelman, 1873; Ed. Mouillesseaux, 1879; T. Fessenden.

*Gunsmith*—J. V. Geiger (1858), successor to John E. Geiger (1830).

*Hardware, Tinware, &c.*—A. D. Dye & Co. (A. D. Dye, A. A. Jarvis), 1876; Mahlon Carmon, 1876; M. C. Mercur, 1878; L. B. Coburn, 1886.

*Glassware, Crockery-ware, Toys, &c.*—C. P. Welles, 1867; Nathan Loewus, 1879.

*Harness-making*—C. F. Dayton, 1871; J. V. Willcock, 1878-79.

*Musical Instruments*—Holmes & Passage (John Holmes, C. D. Passage).

*Musical Instruments and Sewing Machines*—M. C. Wells, 1873.

*Undertaking*—J. S. Allyn.

*Furniture, &c.*—S. S. Smith, 1882; Chas. C. Miller, 1885; Smith Bros. & Turner (successors to J. O. Frost's Sons)—Wm. Smith, A. C. Smith, J. C. Turner.

*Upholstering*—John Spitzer, F. G. Cook.

*C. S. Fitch* (1870), manufacturer of Confectionery, wholesale dealer in fruits, nuts, confectionery, &c.

*A. M. Titus* (1880), confectionery, bake stuffs, &c.

*Wallace Sisters* (1883), fruits, confectionery, &c.—Jessie Wallace, Christina Wallace.

*Spalding & Smith* (1886), groceries, bake stuffs, &c.—I. P. Spalding, E. L. Smith.

*N. H. Cowles* (1873), confectionery, bake stuffs, &c.

*Dennis Clark* (1884), confectionery and bake stuffs.

*W. V. Brown* (1880), restaurant, confectionery, bake stuffs, &c.

*Vaughan & Baker* (1886), groceries and bake stuffs—W. B. Vaughan, J. C. Baker.

*John Lines* (1882), bake stuffs, confectionery, &c.

*Grocers*---Stevens & Long (1868), originally Long & Keeler (1866)---George Stevens, M. J. Long, E. F. Dittrich & Co. (1878)---E. F. Dittrich, Wm. Dittrich, Wm. F. Dittrich.

Perry L. Decker, 1878.

Jas. & W. T. McCabe (1884), originally McCabe & Mix (1867).

George L. Ross, 1876.

Thomas Muir (1883), successor to Thomas Muir & Co. (1871).

George H. Moore, 1883.

E. G. Kromer, 1886.

*Dealers in Butter, Eggs, &c.*---C. T. Abell, Fairchild & Stone.

*Markets*---T. R. Jordan, C. M. Myer, John W. Kline, John Lines, Shores & Bailey, Stevens & Vanauken.

*Lager Beer Brewery*---A. Loder.

*Wine Merchants*---R. E. C. Myer, John Sullivan, John Griffin, P. J. Carroll.

*Mineral Water Manufactory*---G. S. Smith, 1868.

*Beer Bottling*---John Griffin, A. Loder.

*Livery Stables*---E. E. Buffington, D. C. DeWitt, Kirwin Brothers, Seneca Arnold.

*Barbering*---Thos. Curran, D. V. Stedje, Ordwein Bros., George H. Fairchild, George Linchcome.

*Dyeing Establishment*---N. Abrahamson.

*Agricultural Implements, &c.*---R. M. Welles, 1865.

*Carriage Making*---E. O. Spencer, Agent, Philip Seebich, John Brown.

*Carriage Dealer*---James S. Shaylor.

*Laundress*---Jim Lee (Chinese), Mrs. L. Warner.

*Marble Dealers*---Burchill Bros., Lacey & Scheufler, successors to Jas. McCabe.

*Florist*---George H. Cox.

*Fire and Life Insurance*---C. S. Russell, C. M. Hall, Codding & Dodge, J. D. Stryker, O. L. Haverly, O. D. Bartlett, J. A. Record, D. C. Mitten, O. D. Wickham.

*Photographers*---G. H. Wood, 1853; A. J. Fisher, 1875.

*Artist*---Johann F. Bender.

*House and Sign Painting*---Wm. Keeler, W. Wallace Keeler, John Taylor, J. M. Swartwood.

*Hair Dressing*--Mrs. D. V. Stedje.

*Cigar Manufacturer*---T. J. Corbett, J. C. Coons.

*Tobacconist*---J. F. Bender.

*Wall Paper*---Oscar C. Post.

*Wall Paper, Confectionery, &c.*---F. E. Post.

*Coal Dealers*---S. L. & S. R. R. Co., I. O. Blight, Tidd & Stevens, W. M. Mallory, J. F. Phinney.

*Lumber Dealers*---Shaw & Co., who rank among the heaviest dealers in the State, have their general office at Towanda, with yards established at various points. The annual amount of freightage paid by them is much greater than that of any other concern at the county seat.

Wm. M. Mallory, Edward Walker, J. O. Frost's Sons, Rodgers & Hale:

#### RAILROAD MATTERS.

General Manager's office of the State Line & Sullivan Railroad, I. O. Blight, Manager.

Pa. & N. Y. C. & R. R. Co.---Passenger depot, H. E. Babcock, ticket agent; Freight depot, E. W. Elwell, agent.

Freight and Passenger Depot of the Barclay Railroad, M. McCue, agent.

Western Union Telegraph Office, F. B. Kintner, Agent and Operator.

Central Office of the New York & Pa. Telephone and Telegraph Co., H. C. Porter, Manager.

Adams Express Co., W. B. Dodge, Agent.

#### THE TOWANDA LIBRARY

Originated with the young ladies of the Towanda Musical Society in the winter of 1879-80. Having discussed the

merits of the establishment of a public library, Mrs. E. J. Angle, Mrs. E. Cattell, Miss Charlotte Porter, Miss Isabella Pratt and Miss Lizzie Overton were constituted a committee to procure books and proceed to complete the organization. About a dozen volumes were obtained, and the library opened with this small beginning for the first year. The proceeds of entertainments gotten up by the young ladies, together with their library fees, have enabled them to add over a hundred volumes to the library each year, the number now being 1030. The library is carefully selected and contains the best works of History, Essays and Letters, Travel, Poetry and the Drama, Science, English, German, and American Fiction, Miscellaneous, etc. The very creditable and energetic move which resulted in the establishment of the Towanda Library, and is being so successfully continued, entitles the names of its founders to a high place on the roll of honor. They have sown the seeds of a golden harvest. Messrs. Evans & Hildreth, to aid the young ladies in their enterprise, gave them free of rental a room over their store. The organization is governed by an executive committee and rules and regulations. The present committee---Miss M. P. Blight, Librarian; Miss Isabella Pratt, Treasurer; Miss Lizzie M. Overton, Secretary; Mrs. H. C. Hildreth, Misses Sue E. Rahm and Frederika Fox.

#### THE GERMANIA BAND

Was formed in 1880, and is one of the finest musical organizations, in uniforms and instruments, in the State. E. Walker, Jr., who has attained no little distinction as a musician, is leader of the band.

—The first band Towanda ever had was the *Towanda Band*, organized in 1836 and led by Wm. Kendall. It consisted of an E flat bugle, trombones, four German clarionets, a trumpet, two ophicleides, bassoon, and a bass and a snare drum. The organization existed for about four years. As far as known, Mr. Wm. Keeler is the only survivor of the "Towanda Band."

Towanda proper includes the villages of North Towanda and South Towanda, and has a combined population of nearly five thousand. North Towanda, especially, is becoming a desirable place for residences, and is otherwise developing. J. Monroe Ayers is doing a good business in general merchandising there.

#### ADDENDA.

*John Carman*, the foundryman, a native of England, came to Towanda in 1837 from Montrose, where he had been engaged in the foundry business. Immediately after coming to the town he purchased the old foundry on the river bank of Col. Mix, which he continued to run till the fall of 1837, when he erected a foundry in the "Northern Liberties." Here he continued business till 1850, when he built the extensive foundry and machine shops of now J. O. Frost's Sons. In 1866 he built a store building on Main street, where he conducted a hardware business in connection with his foundry. In 1869 he sold his store to M. E. Solomon, and in 1870 his foundry and machine shops to Col. J. F. Means. Mr. Carman was an enterprising citizen and died about four years since, aged over 70 years. His son, Mahlon, succeeds him in the hardware business.

*William Keeler*, born at Hudson, N. Y., July 1, 1818, came to Monroe, Bradford county, in 1820 with his father, Solomon Keeler. His father died when William was about six years old. Since 1822 Mr. Keeler has continually been a resident of Towanda and has grown up with her industries. A regular factotum, with an excellent memory, he has Towanda's history for the past sixty years at his tongue's end. Mr. Keeler has followed house and sign painting in Towanda for nearly half a century. Besides, he has earned more than a local reputation as a musician. He is a citizen highly respected by his fellow-townsmen.

—The only residences on Main street still occupying the same sites that they did in 1834, are the Col. Mix house (1812), the Stewart or Barstow house (1814-16), Wm. Watkins house, Means mansion (1816), the Tompkins or Layton

house (1834). Other old residences are—the Gilson house, which was erected on the Henry Porter lot and moved to the foot of Elizabeth street, where it is occupied by Robert Ganley; the Kingsbury house, moved from the lot of J. J. Griffiths to the opposite side of Main street, where it is occupied by John Carter. The oldest barn in the town is the one standing on the Wm. Mix lot, erected by Harry Spalding in 1812.

—*Business Men.*—Alexander Neely and Nicholas Shoemaker, general merchants and dealers in lumber, were the leading merchants in the early '30's.

Wm. H. Langford was for several years a jeweler and watchmaker in Towanda, keeping from 1835 to 1840 a very rich assortment of gold and silver watches, etc. He sold to W. A. Chamberlin in 1840 and removed to New Jersey.

Since 1840—Daniel Lord was a hardware merchant where M. E. Rosenfield now is; Hentz & Hall, dealers in tinware, stoves, etc.; Lamoreux, Hall & Russell, manufacturers of stoves, etc. D. C. Hall succeeded Hall & Russell in the hardware business, and he was followed by Coddington & Russell.

*Prominent Citizens.*—The Hon. G. A. Grow completed his legal studies with David Wilmot. Judge Henry Booth, of Chicago, was also at one time a resident of Towanda.

*Newspaper Men.*—The next oldest printers after E. A. Parsons in Towanda are C. H. Allen (1852), O. D. Goode-nough (1855). J. S. Hamaker was managing editor of the *Bradford Republican* for a short time.

#### GENERAL CORRECTIONS.

Page 102—"Bradford House" should read Coffee Hotel.

Page 128---Mrs. Olive Elliott died April 7, 1886, since the sketch of her family had gone through the press.

Page 163---"Longitude 25° 28'" should read 25' 28".

Page 172---In the list of principal merchants "1860" should read 1840.

Page 173---"1832," the date of the construction of the Towanda bridge, should read 1834.

Page 194---“ 1835,” the date of the erection of the Towanda Academy, should read 1834-35.

Page 256---Mr. E. S. Goodrich married a second time and had a son, *Alexander*. *Cornelia*, a daughter by his first wife, married S. V. Shipman, a noted architect.

Page 298---*Newton E.*, second youngest son of Col. G. F. Mason, was educated at Annapolis Naval Academy, and is at present in the Ordnance Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Page 310---E. Reed Myer, Speaker 1877.

Page 321---Dagger (†) should be omitted before the names of James M. Edsall and Rowland Wilcox.

### *Typographical Errors.*

Page 2---“ Comprises and ” should read “ comprise an.”

Page 119---“ Col. Harry Mix ” should read Col. Hiram Mix.

Page 120---“ Elisha Newberry ” should read Elihu Newberry.

Page 152---“ Eli Beard ” should read Eli Baird.

Page 170---The date “ 1832 ” should read 1834.

Page 191---“ Daniel Scott ” should read David Scott.

Page 203---“ Township ” should read townships.



Edward Mills

Corporal Edward Mills Killed  
at Fort Griswold. Conn. during  
Arnold's attack on New London  
Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> 1781.













